

Bomb explodes at Rome airport

ROME (R) — A bomb exploded Monday among baggage at Rome's main airport of Fiumicino, a police spokesman said. He gave no details on casualties but the Italian news agency ANSA said first reports were that two people had been injured. The agency said the device was believed to have been placed in a suitcase being transported on a baggage conveyor-belt for loading on an aircraft bound for India. In Madrid, Monday, one woman was killed and 28 people injured in attacks on the offices of British, Jordanian and American airlines.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تأسست من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأى

Khatib leaves for Tunis meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Information, Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Al Khatib left Amman for Tunis Monday evening heading a Jordanian delegation to a meeting of the Council of Arab Information Ministers. The meeting, which will start on Tuesday, will be held at the Arab League headquarters in the Tunisian capital. The meeting in Tunis will discuss proposals for the use of ArabSat 1, including an Arab audio-visual network. Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Nassar Mohammad Al Ahmad Al Sahah said Monday. Sheikh Nassar, quoted by the Kuwait News Agency, said before leaving for Tunis that Oman's idea for an audio-visual network topped the agenda, which would also include proposals to use ArabSat in education and research information.

Volume 10 Number 2909

AMMAN, TUESDAY JULY 2, 1985, SHAWWAL 15, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King congratulates Canadian leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable of good wishes to Canadian Governor-General Jeanne Sauve congratulating her on the occasion of Canada's national day. The King, in his name and on behalf of the people and government of Jordan, wished Ms. Sauve continued success in leading the Canadian people towards further prosperity and achieving national aspirations.

Benjedid begins Spain visit

MADRID (R) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid arrived in Madrid Monday for a three-day state visit which marks the normalisation of ties after a bitter and prolonged dispute over a gas contract. Mr. Benjedid, making the first official visit to Spain by an Algerian head of state, was welcomed by King Juan Carlos.

Swiss expel Soviet diplomat

BERN (AP) — Swiss authorities on Monday charged a member of the Soviet mission to the United Nations office in Geneva has been spying and ordered his expulsion. A statement issued by the office of the federal prosecutor said the unidentified diplomat, one of ten second secretaries at the mission, had "abused his diplomatic status over a longer period for espionage operations against Switzerland and third countries."

Senior U.S. official meets Denktash

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash had talks Monday with a senior U.S. State Department official, Richard Haas, who is visiting both sectors of this divided capital. Mr. Denktash, elected president of the self-proclaimed Turkish Cypriot republic on June 9, told reporters afterwards Mr. Haas put forward no plan for uniting Cyprus, but said both sides should study latest United Nations proposals on the issue.

GCC foreign ministers to meet

BAHRAIN (R) — Foreign ministers of the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) will meet in the Saudi town of Abha, near the border with North Yemen, on July 8 and 9 to discuss common issues, the Saudi Press Agency said Monday. It said the ministers from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates would discuss political, economic, legal and financial issues, as well as reviewing developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

Yakub Khan arrives in India

NEW DELHI (R) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yakub Khan arrived in New Delhi Monday saying he expected his talks with Indian officials would be constructive. Yakub Khan heads a 14-man delegation to meetings of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission starting on Tuesday.

Terrorists attack Alia, British Airways and TWA offices in Spain

1 dies, 28 injured in bomb blast at BA office

MADRID (Agencies) — One woman was killed and at least 28 people were injured Monday in attacks on offices of British, American and Jordanian airlines which Spanish officials linked to the Beirut hostage crisis.

Most of the victims were inside the main ticket offices of British Airways where a bomb exploded, gutting the premises and wrecking offices upstairs of Trans World Airlines (TWA).

In Beirut, a group calling itself "the organization of the oppressed" said it was responsible for attacking the TWA office, adding that it was in response to President Reagan's threat to strike against terrorism.

"Let Reagan know that our hands will reach the whole world and we shall never remain silent after this. We thank all the alliances which helped us to carry out the bombing of the TWA office," an anonymous telephone caller told an international news agency in the Lebanese capital.

Spanish police said the blast appeared to be part of a coordinated operation in which two men and a woman, all of Arab appearance, also lobbed two grenades at and machinegunned the nearby offices of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline.

In Amman, a spokesman for Alia said no casualties were caused by the attack on the airline's office. The spokesman said the facade of the office was the target of the attack. He said Alia "deeply regretted this criminal act against the office of an airline, which is committed to endeavours towards establishing bridges of culture among the countries of the world."

The bomb exploded in the British Airways ticket office on Madrid's crowded Gran via shopping avenue, gutting the entire floor and shattered the TWA offices on the floor above.

Seconds later, gunmen opened fire on the Alia office and dropped a hand grenade which was later defused. Hospital officials said at least two of the injured in the bomb blast were in serious condition. Three of the hurt appeared to be foreigners — two Americans and an Arab.

Police at first said two suspects were arrested, one of whom was reported to be injured, but later said they had made no arrests in connection with the attacks. The president of the Madrid regional government, Joaquin Leguina, said the explosion "might have some connection with the kidnapping of a TWA plane in Beirut."

Police initially thought that bomb had exploded inside the TWA offices. The attack occurred a day after the 17-day ordeal of TWA Flight 847 ended with the release of the 39 American hostages in Beirut. Police identified two of the wounded in the explosion as Bridger Liner, an American citizen, and Abdullah Al Baelousi of Bahrain.

Neither was injured seriously, police said. The woman died shortly after arriving at a hospital. Her identity was not available. The police said they believed up to three people, one of them a woman, could have been involved in the attacks.

"The attacks could be linked to the hijacking of the TWA plane in Lebanon," Mr. Leguina told reporters at the scene. "Even though the hijacking crisis has been resolved we see again that terrorism has neither frontiers nor logic," he said.

Jordanian Ambassador Mohammad Al Adwan told reporters Jordan had received a series of bomb threats against Jordanian property. The joint delegation, currently touring Europe to explain the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to European leaders, held 30 minutes of talks with the Pope and explained the joint Jordan-PLO strategy. The Pope reaffirmed his support for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and pledged efforts to push forward the joint Jordanian-Palestinian strategy, Petra said.

After the meeting with the Pope, the delegation, which has already held talks with Italian and French leaders, met Vatican Secretary of State Agostino Casaroli. Cardinal Casaroli expressed the Vatican's support for Jordan-PLO moves and pledged to increase its international contacts to promote the Jordanian-Palestinian efforts for peace in the Middle East, Petra said.

In the past the Pope has defended the rights of Palestinians. He has said Palestinians need their own homeland but that Israel has a right to secure borders. Last week the Palestinian news agency Wafa said PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat sent a letter to the Pope about the conditions in which Palestinians live in refugee camps in Lebanon.

The joint delegation, which is headed by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, includes Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, PLO Executive Committee member Jawid Al Ghassini and PLO Central Committee member Khalid Al Hassan.

The joint team, which left Amman last Tuesday, met Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti on Wednesday. On Thursday they held talks in Paris with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and met Prime Minister Laurent Fabius on Friday.

Prior to his departure from Amman, Mr. Majali told Petra that joint Jordanian-PLO teams are also scheduled to visit Britain, West Germany and other European capitals to secure support for the Feb. 11 agreement and the proposal for an international conference on the Middle East as enshrined in the accord.

It was not known Monday whether the delegation currently in Italy will proceed to other European capitals or return to Amman. Meanwhile in Tunis, the PLO representative to Tunisia, Hakam Balawi, praised the joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves and expressed hope that the joint moves will help create more solidarity among Arabs.

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BACK TO FREEDOM: U.S. Vice-President George Bush (left) shakes hands with freed hostage Richard Young Moon Monday after a U.S. military plane had brought him and the other 38 hostages from Damascus to Frankfurt (AP wirephoto)

Vatican supports Feb. 11 accord

VATICAN (Agencies) — A joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation Monday briefed Pope John Paul II on the joint Jordan-PLO strategy towards achieving a just and peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem and the pontiff voiced his support for the joint move, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

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Akayleh appointed interior under-secretary; Ali Al Bashir named Amman governor

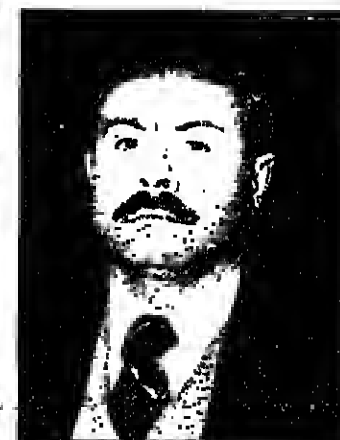
AMMAN (J.T.) — Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed Monday appointed Mr. Ahmad Ibrahim Akayleh as under-secretary of the Ministry of Interior and Mr. Ali Al Bashir, a former minister of interior, as governor of Amman.

Mr. Akayleh served as secretary general of the Lower House of Parliament before his new appointment and he will be replaced by Hani Salim Khair, who served in the same job prior to Mr. Akayleh.

The Cabinet on Sunday appointed Mr. Akayleh and Mr. Bashir as governors at the Ministry of Interior before they took over the new posts.



Ahmad Akayleh



Ali Al Bashir

Rabat denies Syrian claim, reaffirms summit plans

RABAT (R) — The Moroccan Foreign Ministry Monday denied that King Hassan had abandoned his plan to host an extraordinary Arab summit, initially planned in Casablanca on July 12.

"The Foreign Ministry categorically denies reports to the contrary which are unfounded. It confirms and recalls that Morocco is still ready to organize an extraordinary Arab Summit," a statement issued by the official MAP agency said.

The statement was made after the Syrian news agency SANA quoted Moroccan officials Sunday as saying Rabat was giving up its summit proposal following an inconclusive Arab League meeting in Tunis on Saturday.

Syria is one of four countries which have expressed reservations about the summit and a Moroccan official told Reuters that the SANA report was an attempt to confuse the issue.

Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Kibi will visit Morocco this week for further consultations to fix the date, the official said.

Informed Arab sources said King Hassan had originally proposed that the summit be held in Casablanca on July 12-14 while Mr. Kibi was reported to have suggested July 27.

Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal who arrived in Casablanca Sunday was expected to discuss the summit plan with King Hassan Monday.

Romanov, dropped from Kremlin leadership

MOSCOW (R) — Politburo member Grigory Romanov, a one-time rival to Communist Party chief Mikhail Gorbachev, was dropped Monday from the ruling body in a move that further strengthened the power base of the new Soviet leader.

Mr. Romanov, 62, once seen as a contender for the leadership, was relieved of his post at a session of the party central committee which also promoted Georgian Republic chief Eduard Shevardnadze to full politburo membership.

Diplomats saw the move as further consolidating the authority of Mr. Gorbachev, who brought three close allies into the top reaches of the 13-man politburo in April.

The Central Committee, meeting ahead of a parliamentary session that is expected to appoint Mr. Gorbachev as state president, also appointed two new secretaries to the Moscow secretariat.

A communique said Mr. Romanov, who headed the country's defence industry, had asked to step down on health grounds.

But diplomats said the grey-haired former Leningrad party leader had clearly been sacked, a casualty of the rise to power of his erstwhile opponent (Romanov fades from the Kremlin, page 4).

There was no indication that Mr. Romanov was present at Monday's meeting and the initial TASS report did not state whether the Central Committee had issued any statements of praise for him.

Mr. Romanov had been a full member of the politburo since 1976. In 1982, under the late Yuri Andropov, he was brought to Moscow to become a member of the Central Committee secretariat. He was believed to be responsible for defence-related industries.

He had not been seen in public for over a month and some officials had been telling diplomats and journalists privately that he was both ill and in political difficulties.

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INSIDE

- * Reagan urges campaign to free 'forgotten hostages', page 2
- * PNC speaker opens cultural exhibition, page 3
- * Barbarism and political savagery, the choice is still ours, page 4
- * Jordanian venture makes major forays into the world of films, page 5
- * Argentina qualifies for World Cup finals, page 6
- * Israelis stage national strike today, page 7
- * S.Africans pull out after Angola raid, page 8

Reagan urges campaign to free 'forgotten hostages'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amid the euphoria in the United States over the release of the 39 TWA hostages, President Ronald Reagan is calling for an intensified international campaign to secure freedom for seven Americans and other kidnap victims still in Lebanon.

Until those hostages also are freed, "this is no moment for celebration," the president said.

And he asked those who helped in the crisis of the TWA passengers "to show even greater energy and commitment to secure the release of all others held captive in Lebanon."

Vice President George Bush, travelling in Europe, said France and other countries whose citizens have been kidnapped in Beirut would be asked to join an international effort on their behalf.

"The United States government is not going to give up, not going in rest content, until the seven and others are released too," Mr. Bush said.

Secretary of State George Shultz said the United States has "solid information" that Syrian President Hafez Assad, who helped win the release of the hijack victims, has been "working assiduously on the problem of the other hostages."

Mr. Shultz, asked what would compel their kidnappers to release the Americans seized in the past 16 months, said, "I hope they will respond to the same con-

siderations that must have led to the release of the 39... certainly if there is any humaneness, that should be done and it should be done promptly."

The Syrian head of state "has put a considerable amount of will power into it and we will be pushing hard," Mr. Shultz said.

Amid the massive effort to free the TWA captives, relatives of the earlier U.S. prisoners have complained their loved ones had become the "forgotten hostages."

A senior administration official, speaking on condition he not be identified, said, "our diplomacy in the private exchanges from the beginning had always included the seven... we wanted all of them back."

At the air force hospital in Wiesbaden, West Germany, where the newly released hostages were taken for military checks on their way home from Damascus, Syria, seven U.S. flags were added Sunday to the 39 flying in tribute to the men from the hijacked jetliner.

Amal Sh'ite leaders in Beirut, who arranged the release of the hostages from TWA flight 847,

said they had nothing to do with the earlier kidnappings and could not release the seven.

Experts in congressional and diplomatic circles asserted, however, that Assad could devise a deal in free the seven.

"Assad could, if he wants to, expand the political capital and bring enough pressure to release them. The question is whether he will. I hope he does," Senator Pat Leahy, vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, said recently on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Samuel Lewis, former U.S. ambassador to Israel, said an Assad-sponsored effort on behalf of the seven would be hampered by his lack of direct control over the captors, believed to be a Sh'ite faction called Hezbollah, or "Party of God."

Peggy Say, whose brother, Terry Anderson, was kidnapped by gunmen on a Beirut street on March 16, remained hopeful even after it was apparent the hostage deal failed to include her brother.

"The expected Terry to come out, somehow he was lost in the shuffle with the other six," she said. "But they know where he is. And they've been able to speak, apparently to his captors through whatever means."

Anderson, 37, is chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press.



Hijackers Press Conference: Hooded Shi'ite Muslims, identified as the original hijackers of the TWA airliner, hold a news conference Sunday to coincide with the release of the 39 American passengers and crew of the plane (AP wirephoto).

Shultz calls for end of Beirut airport status as haven for hijackers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State George Shultz, calling Beirut International Airport a "safe haven for terrorists," says something must be done to "close the usefulness" of the facility to hijackers.

Mr. Shultz has noted that "15 percent of the hijackings outside the United States over the last 15 years have either originated, ended or gone through the Beirut Airport."

His comments came at a White House news conference held after the 39 American hijack hostages left Syria for West Germany. They spent 17 days in captivity after their TWA Athens-to-Rome flight was hijacked to Beirut.

"The Beirut Airport has become a kind of safe haven for terrorists. And certainly it's one of the things that we and other countries must consider is that as long as Beirut is a haven for terrorists, it should not be a place frequented by the world community," Mr. Shultz said.

"So that airport, I think, is something that we have to look at carefully."

Mr. Shultz urged other countries to avoid using the airport, which is served only by a limited number of Middle East Airlines.

"It's not a question of sort of economic sanctions or something like that," he said. "It's a question of trying to close the usefulness of that airport."

Robert McFarlane, President Ronald Reagan's national security adviser, was asked Sunday whether the United States would consider taking steps to shut down the airport.

"That may be necessary over time," he told NBC in an interview, "I wouldn't rule it out."

Lebanon violence claims 300 lives in June

BEIRUT (R) — About 300 people died violently in Lebanon last month, 75 of them in a single car bomb blast in the northern port of Tripoli, security, militia and hospital sources said Monday.

Among the victims was a U.S. Navy diver shot dead on board a hijacked Trans World Airlines (TWA) jet at Beirut Airport.

The sources said 69 people died in June during fighting between Shi'ite Muslim forces and Palestinian forces for control of Beirut refugee camps, bringing to 640 the overall death toll for the five-week Shi'ite-Palestinian conflict.

Nine people died when a suicide car bomber rammed an army post in one of many hit-and-run attacks on Shi'ite troops who fought beside the Shi'ite Amal militia in the camps' war.

Another car bomb explosion in mainly-Muslim west Beirut took two lives, while three people were killed in clashes between Amal and Druze militias.

Shooting and shelling across the "green line" battle zone dividing west Beirut from the Christian east killed 28 people.

Sniper fire killed a member of a French military observer corps monitoring a ceasefire in Beirut, and nearby mountains.

Fighting between Shi'ite Muslim fundamentalists and a pro-Syrian militia claimed 18 victims in Tripoli besides the 75 dead in the car bomb blast.

In South Lebanon, Israeli or pro-Israeli militia forces killed 16 people. While eight were killed for suspected collaboration with Israel.

Nine people died in battles between the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) and opposition militias east of the port of Sidon.

The June death toll, which included about 60 people killed in non-political violence, was lower than the figure of at least 675 in May, the most lethal month since September 1983.

Kuwait ship, crew still held by Iran

KUWAIT (R) — Diplomatic efforts to free a Kuwait-registered ship and its crew seized by Iran 10 days ago apparently remain deadlocked, an official for the owners said Monday.

The 23,800-tonne Al Muharraq was intercepted by Iranian gunboats in the Gulf of Oman on June 20, while on its way from Europe to the Gulf, and escorted to the port of Bandar Abbas.

"Iran still has the ship. We've

learned the crew are safe, but don't know of any plan to release them or the ship yet," said an official for the owners, the United Arab Shipping Company (UASC).

The ship carried nine British, one Iraqi, one Pakistani and two Jordanian officers, and a crew of 22 Bangladeshis.

The official said he understood the vessel's cargo had been dis-

charged for inspection.

Shipping sources say Iran occasionally stops Gulf shipping to check whether cargoes include military hardware destined for its Gulf war enemy Iraq.

The Kuwaiti-based UASC, owned by the governments of Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, has said the Al Muharraq carried general cargo only.

Delay in release of hostages proves embarrassing for Reagan

By Andrew Nibley

Reuter

WASHINGTON — The one-day delay in the release of 39 American hostages held in Lebanon may prove to be one of the more embarrassing moments in Ronald Reagan's presidency.

Behind-the-scenes diplomatic efforts to win the hostages' release were apparently proceeding as quickly as possible when Mr. Reagan, for unknown reasons, broke his own three-day-old news blackout on the crisis.

On Friday in Chicago, the president said the terrorists who hijacked Trans World Airlines (TWA) flight 847 on its way from Athens to Rome on June 14 "would be held to account".

Mr. Reagan also described the Shi'ite Muslim hijackers as "thugs, murderers and barbarians."

Although it is not entirely clear, his comments may have compelled the militant Shi'ite fringe group originally responsible for the hijacking, the "hizbollah" (Party of God), to detain four of the 39 hostages who were scheduled to be put on the road to Damascus on Saturday.

The president's hard-line remarks also dismayed some U.S. diplomats in Washington who had been carefully trying to bring the hostages home through negotiations with Syria and other third parties.

Publicly, U.S. officials said the hold-up in the release of the hostages occurred because Shi'ite Amal leader Nabih Berri had difficulty in getting all the hostages "together for the trip to Damascus."

But privately U.S. officials conceded Reagan's comments in Chicago could not have come at a worse time in the hostage release process.

"I really wish I knew who wrote that speech," said one U.S. official after the hostage release broke down.

"The statement was not helpful," former Undersecretary of State Joseph Sisco said in a television interview, but added he still thought the main reason was probably Mr. Berri's inability to control the Hizbollah.

In the end, the State Department issued a short statement reaffirming the long-standing U.S. commitment to stability in Lebanon. The statement apparently reassured the Shi'ites that a U.S. retaliatory strike was not in the offing and led to the Sunday release of the hostages.

Mr. Reagan was not the only one with timing problems at the White House.

In the early morning hours of Saturday, apparently unaware a

problem had developed, White House spokesman Larry Speakes called reporters together to tell them he had reliable government and press reports that the hostages had been "loaded on buses and the buses are moving."

A senior administration official, who asked not to be identified, said soon afterwards that the buses were headed toward Damascus where the hostages would be flown to Frankfurt, West Germany and freedom.

When the release of the hostages did not materialise as expected, the White House suddenly went silent.

The administration, clearly skittish after it got ahead of developments on Saturday, cautiously waited on Sunday until several hours after the hostages had begun their journey to Damascus before confirming they were free.

The hitch in the hostage release

was particularly embarrassing to Mr. Reagan because he had been so critical of his predecessor, Jimmy Carter, in 1980 when Iranian militants were holding American hostages at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

Those hostages were finally freed the day Mr. Reagan was inaugurated as the 40th president of the United States.

Mr. Reagan's unexpected statement on the TWA hostage issue was not the first time he has found himself in trouble for something he said.

One notable recent gaffe was during a microphone sound-check before one of his weekly radio broadcasts at the height of the 1984 presidential campaign.

Reagan quipped: "my fellow Americans, I am pleased to tell you I have just signed legislation which outlaws Russia forever. The bombing begins in five minutes."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel. 773111-19

MAIN CHANNEL

7:00-7:30 Koran

7:30-8:00 Cartoons

8:00-8:30 Children's Programmes

8:30-9:00 The World of Walt Disney

9:00-9:30 Local Programme

9:30-10:00 Programme Review

10:00-10:30 News Programme

10:30-11:00 News in Arabic

11:00-11:30 Arabic Series

11:30-12:00 Tomorrow's Programmes

12:00-12:30 Arabic Series

12:30-1:00 News in Arabic

1:00-1:30 Arabic Series Contd.

1:30-2:00 Religious Programme and singing off

FOREIGN CHANNEL

17:30 German Programme for Children

18:00 French Programme for children and teenagers

18:30-19:00 Les 3 conquistadores

19:00-19:30 News in French

19:30-20:00 Les amours des années 50

20:00-20:30 News in Hebrew

20:30-21:00 News in Arabic

21:00-21:30 Kate and Allie

21:30-22:00 Cover Her Face

22:00-22:30 News in English

22:30-23:00 Feature Film: The Hellbenders

23:00-23:30 RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 KHz, FM & party on 95.60 KHz, SW 774111-19

7:00-7:30 Light Music

7:30-8:00 News Desk

8:00-8:30 Morning Show

8:30-9:00 News Summary

9:00-9:30 Morning Show Contd.

9:30-10:00 News Summary

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Hussein receives JBA president, council

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received at the Royal Court the president and council members of the Jordanian Bar Association (JBA). The JBA president praised King Hussein's keenness to patronise and safeguard the Jordanian constitution and the Kingdom's legal system.

King honours new envoy to Switzerland

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred upon newly-appointed Jordanian Ambassador to Switzerland Adnan Talhoumi the Medal of Independence of the First Order in appreciation of his efficiency and efforts during his term of office at the Royal Court. On Sunday Mr. Talhoumi was sworn in before the King as Jordan's ambassador to Switzerland.

Zarqa officials submit demands to Rifai

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Hazem Nuseibeh Monday received Zarqa Development Corporation (ZDC) Chairman Tayseer Amnari and the president of Zarqa club who delivered a message addressed to the prime minister regarding requests for Zarqa district governorate. The message, signed by heads of clubs, societies and various commercial and industrial sectors in Zarqa, called for promoting Zarqa district to a governorate, holding municipal elections for the municipality and setting up a sports city in Zarqa.

Jordan to participate in Baghdad fair

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has agreed to Jordan's participation in the Baghdad International Fair which will start on Nov. 1. The fair will last for 15 days.

Agriculture students arrive for course

AMMAN (Petra) — A student delegation from the Syrian-based Arab League Pastures and Forests Institute arrived here Monday upon an invitation from the Ministry of Agriculture to attend a training course to be held by the ministry. The 30-member student delegation represents Syria, Sudan, North Yemen, South Yemen, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Somalia, Mauritania and Jordan.

Ministry organises summer camps

AMMAN (Petra) — Summer clubs organised by the Ministry of Education opened Monday in Karak, Tafel, Irbid and Ma'an districts, according to the ministry's director of the extra curricular activities department, Mr. Tayseer Arafah. He called on students wishing to join in the activities to report to the ministry's centres, which have so far registered 12,000 students. The summer activities, he said, are designed to develop the skills and capabilities of students and to encourage team work.

Jerash villages receive electricity

JERASH (Petra) — Irbid Mayor Mohammad Ali Al Amin Monday inaugurated an electricity project for two villages, Jebba and Um Al Zaitoun in the Jerash Governorate. Irbid District Electricity Company Director General Abdul Ra'uf Al Sheikh said that the project was completed at an estimated cost of JD 68,000. The project includes a four-kilometre high voltage line, 180 low voltage poles and two electricity transformer stations which will benefit 62 subscribers.

Mu'ta to hold first graduation at new site on Wednesday

KARAK (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein is expected to patronise the graduation ceremony of Mu'ta University's fifth batch of students, which is to be held Wednesday.

Mu'ta University President Ali Mahafza told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that this group of students, called "Zaid Ibn Hartha" after a historic Arab military leader, includes 64 students from the police sciences faculty. Half of these students specialised in law and the other half have taken courses in administration in addition to military exercises and police sciences which are part of the university's curriculum, he added.

Dr. Mahafza said that the graduation ceremony is scheduled to take place and for the first time at the university's new premises in Karak. Previous graduations were held at the university's old site in Amman before the new campus was built.

Speaking about the university's record in teaching, Dr. Mahafza said that the university moved to its new premises in October 1984 and during that year it received 35 students recommended by the Jordanian Armed Forces and the Public Security Department.

He went on to say that the university is expected to receive 350 new students in the next scholastic year. Dr. Mahafza pointed out that the university would continue to admit this number of students each year until 1989. He said that the number of students will reach 1,320 by then.

Dr. Mahafza went on to say that the annual intake of new students would gradually be increased after 1989 to reach an annual intake of 780 students in the second phase when more buildings will have been constructed. At the end of the second phase the total number of students will be 3,140. One quarter of these would come from the armed forces while the other three quarters will be civilians, he added.

The university provides students with accommodation facilities, food and drink and other facilities.

Commenting on the university's facilities, he said that one of the main features is an up to date library. The library includes 35,000 volumes on all specialisations and has connections with more than 25 university libraries all over the world, Dr. Mahafza concluded.



NEW COURT FOR SAHAB: Minister of Justice Riyadh Shaka'a (second left) Monday opens a new court in Sahab, southwest of Amman. The ministry is opening courts in different parts of the Kingdom to facilitate judicial procedures and to save people having to travel to Amman for court cases (Petra photo)

Young man murders father in collaboration with relatives

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 25-year old man from Sleithi town killed his father in collaboration with family relatives and burned the body in an attempt to cover the crime according to a report in the Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i.

The young man, identified as HMD, admitted to the murder when interrogated on different occasions over a period of one month following the disappearance of the father, identified as 80-year old MSG.

Police received a report from the murdered man's daughter regarding the disappearance of her father and they immediately started investigations. According to the report, the police learnt that the father and son had quarrelled over the father selling a piece of land for JD 14,000.

In the course of investigations

Ministry announces tenders worth JD 40m this year

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Public Works announced tenders worth a total of JD 40 million in the first four months of this year. A ministry official said that JD 19.5 million of this sum has been allocated for water and sewerage projects, JD 10 million for roads, JD 7.2 million for public buildings, JD 2.5 million for engineering designs and supervision

work and JD 800,000 for electromechanical works.

The projects will benefit the ministry, the Water Authority of Jordan, Amman Municipality, and the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, the spokesman said. He said that tenders of buildings are expected to increase in the second half of this year.

Switzerland appoints new ambassador to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Swiss government has appointed Harald Borner as ambassador plenipotentiary to Jordan to succeed Andre-Louis Vallon who last March was transferred to the post of ambassador to Luxembourg. Mr. Borner, who served as Swiss ambassador to Tanzania, is expected to arrive in Amman to take up his post early in August.

Swiss loan to Jordan

Last Thursday an agreement was signed in Bern granting Jordan a 60 million Swiss franc long-term soft loan. One third of the loan, to be provided by the Swiss government, will be payable over 25 years with no interest and with a grace period of 10 years. The rest will be provided by a consortium of Swiss banks, payable over 10 years at six per cent interest with a grace period of three years.

The agreement was signed for Jordan by ambassador to Switzerland Hani Khalifa and by Swiss Minister for Public Economy Corneli Samaruga and a representative of the Swiss consortium Hans Schoeb. Following the signing ceremony, the minister hosted a luncheon in honour of the ambassador, his embassy staff and the representatives of the consortium.

PNC speaker opens Palestinian cultural heritage festival

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Palestinian National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sa'eh Monday opened a week-long festival of Palestinian cultural activities, including a display of Palestinian handicrafts and performances of folkloric music and dances, marking the International Day of the Palestinian Heritage.

The festival opened with a five-day exhibition of pottery, ceramics, olive wood carvings, mother of pearl works and embroidery which have been a source of income and livelihood for people in many parts of Palestine.

After reviewing the exhibition, which is being held at the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) office in Jebel Hussein, Sheikh Sa'eh spoke to reporters about the significance of the exhibition.

He said that such exhibitions have two main functions pertaining to the struggle of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland. First, he said, the exhibition is evidence that the roots of the Palestinian people are deeply entrenched in Palestine.

"The Zionist and the Israeli claim that the Palestinian people have no roots in Palestine are groundless and our heritage, as manifested in this exhibition, is a clear proof of that," Sheikh Sa'eh said. Secondly, the PLO official added, the exhibition shows that Palestinians in exile still consider themselves an extension of their homeland and illustrates that they are still closely attached to their heritage.

The highlight of the exhibition

is a model of an old Palestinian house with all its hand made furniture and gadgets.

A beautiful display of different traditional Palestinian costumes, borrowed from the unique collection owned by Mrs. Wadad Kavar, were also displayed at the exhibition.

The International Day of the Palestinian Heritage is an annual occasion which was first initiated by a decision from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) as part of efforts "to preserve the Palestinian heritage in the face of Israeli attempts to steal it".

Sheikh Sa'eh pointed out that the Israelis "are exhibiting Palestinian costumes and handicrafts in Western Europe and the United States pretending that they are part of Israeli heritage". He stressed the need to organise such exhibitions in Europe and America "to refute Israeli claims".

This is the third consecutive year that the regional committee for the Palestinian heritage in Jordan has organised cultural activities and festivals to mark the occasion.

Rifai patronises Arab College graduation

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Monday patronised the graduation ceremony for the 9th batch of students from the Arab College. During the ceremony, held at the Roman amphitheatre, Mr. Rifai said that Jordan today enjoys the results of His Majesty King Hussein's wise policies and is proud that one third of the country's population is receiving education.

The prime minister went on to

say the Jordan has been able to establish schools in every population gathering throughout the Kingdom and is the proud possessor of three distinguished universities.

Attending the graduation celebration were a number of ministers, Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sa'eh, members of the college's board of trustees and staff and members of the public.

Jordan increases consumption of over-the-counter drugs

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

remained unchanged.
Cure-alls

AMMAN — The consumption of drugs in Jordan has increased considerably over the past 20 years. Drugs are made available in this country through four local companies, the largest of which is the Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company (APMC), and through the various drug importing firms.

Statistics from the Ministry of Health show that Jordan is still depending heavily on foreign drug supplies. In 1983, 76.6 per cent of the annual consumption was imported. Local companies, however, have large requirements to meet if we consider the large consumption of pharmaceuticals, not only in Jordan, but in the Arab World.

The Arab Council for Economic Unity (CAEU) has estimated the consumption of pharmaceuticals in Arab countries in 1980 at about \$2,000 million. The same year, in Jordan alone, the consumption was JD 12,872,279, which increased to JD 16,938,352 in 1981, and to JD 21,043,902 in 1982 rising to JD 21,931,300 in 1983.

A classification of Jordan's consumption of drugs according to therapeutic categories is, unfortunately, not available at present. Dr. Husham Midlani Musmar, head of the Pharmaceutical Department at the Ministry of Health, told the Jordan Times. However, the most highly consumed type of drugs in the Kingdom are antibiotics, followed by anti-inflammatories (such as aspirin) and analgesics.

Although this is also not statistically proven, Dr. Musmar said that, through personal contact with Jordanian pharmacies, he has found that most drugs are sold for children under the age of 12.

Statistics from invoice records of the Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company as old as 1975 already show that as much as 40 per cent of the total sales was constituted by antibiotics, followed by analgesics (16 per cent). These two rates far exceeded rates registered in other countries in the same year. Egypt, for example, registered only a 16 per cent sale of antibiotics and 8.4 per cent of analgesics, India 19.9 and 3.8 per cent, the United Kingdom 13.9 and 4.7 and Germany 4 and 5.2. More recent data is not available, but the situation seems to have

remained unchanged. However, antibiotics and analgesics both seem to have become the modern "cure-all" which doctors too often prescribe, often combined, to appease the patient and to mask the symptoms rather than going to the root of the disease.

Science has proven that our bodies contain, in fact, both natural antibiotics and analgesics to cope with most minor troubles. Overconsumption of medications only weakens the body's natural defences and reduces the effectiveness of the medications themselves when they may actually be needed.

Besides, no artificial drug has yet been found that does not have some side effect, many of which can be as undesirable as the illness itself, especially if the drug is used for a prolonged period of time. Antibiotics, for example, are commonly known to cause, among other problems, vitamin deficiencies in the body, especially vitamin K, which is necessary for proper clotting of the blood and to maintain normal bone metabolism.

Even a common and apparently innocuous drug such as aspirin is not for everyone. It is, in fact, dangerous for sufferers from stomach ulcers, feverish children who have been dehydrated by vomiting or diarrhoea, and is also dubious during pregnancy. A study conducted at two Denver hospitals, in fact, indicated that pregnant mothers who take aspirin during the last weeks of pregnancy may increase the risk of causing bleeding in premature infants.

Side effects

Switching to other painkillers such as the acetaminophens is no guarantee either, since their possible side effects include skin rashes, hives, asthma and low blood sugar. Besides, according to Dr. Mohammed El Lozi, chief of the Neurology Department at the King Hussein Medical Centre, all analgesics can contribute to the development of kidney stones. Analgesics also interfere with the ability to think clearly, causing drowsiness.

Unfortunately, because both antibiotics and analgesics are not only too easily prescribed, but often available over the counter, the problem is even more rel-

evant. Analgesics also have a high potential for abuse, but the final irony is that they have been found to be only slightly more effective than placebos (or sugar pills) in the treatment of pain by an American study.

Just recently, after 22 years of studies, the American Food and Drug Administration has concluded a review that has led to the withdrawal of 1,099 prescription drugs found to be ineffective, some of which were among the biggest selling drugs.

While the Western world has realised in the recent years the dangers of chemical drugs and has made a widespread turn to the old natural remedies, an opposite trend has been witnessed in developing countries which keep looking to the West for all that is best.

In China, where traditional medicine has a millennial history and where traditional healers have always been given great respect, even under Chairman Mao who realised modern medicine could have never reached the immense number of people in his country, it is still working hand in hand with modern methods.

Recently, computers have been used to blend the knowledge of both the Eastern and the Western medical heritage, so that today's medical students learn China's medical heritage along with the latest in modern Western medical technology. A re-evaluation of natural remedies makes sense everywhere, but especially in developing countries where modern medicine seems to still be unavailable to the masses, and where the wealth of traditional medicine has not yet been totally forgotten.

Jordan's natural remedies

Although many natural remedies are found in opposite parts of the world, some vary according to the availability in each country. Some Jordanians have shared with the Jordan Times a few samples of commonly used remedies in this country.

Most older people, in fact, know that a wild plant called "geh-abn-mar", which looks like cucumber and is found in woods and hilly places, is effective in treating epatitis if squeezed in the nose. Another remedy against epatitis, which is common throughout the whole Arab World, is an infusion of "hindi-sha'ir" and "kashar-ba-el-rawad" herbs which, according to Mrs. Fadna Debabneh

from Salt, can clear the disease completely in only three days. "With modern medicines, it can recede, but not with this remedy", she said.

Mr. Salim Fakhouri, also from Salt, recalled from his experience the use of "sommak" leaves for serious nosebleeding. "Sommak" is a tree producing sour tasting berries. The leaves' infusion is dropped into the nasal passages until total recovery.

Some natural remedies, however, require some bravery. Mr. Fakhouri said that the most popular remedy against varicose veins is burning them with a special herb named "gafa".

A common remedy against colds and coughs is the infusion of "baboonel", a plant producing yellow flowers. Both leaves and flowers are used in this preparation. The infusion of a white flower plant, "belasan", is also believed to be helpful to treat cough and stomach troubles.

Many people, however, have a large knowledge of natural medicine without knowing the names of the plants. For some of the remedies, however, the ingredients are widely available and often found right in the home. These include sage tea for stomach troubles, parsley tea for constipation, rosemary tea or mint tea for stomach trouble and pain.

Garlic and onions are also believed to have many healthful effects. Garlic is a natural antibiotic, and is believed to be very effective in relieving stomach pains. "My husband, who was Japanese, ate handfuls of garlic whenever he was troubled with stomach pains. It is a known remedy even in the Far East", Mrs. Debabneh said. She also said that one onion a day is believed, in Jordan, to be a preventative against heart attacks.

Another remedy she has personally tried and proved is watermelon juice for kidney stones. "The watermelon is boiled whole until cooked all the way through, then it is crushed and strained and the juice is drunk in large quantities", she said.

Not all natural remedies, however, can be blindly trusted as well. The ideal would be to train common physicians in this branch of medicine as well, to enable them to properly inform and advise their patients in the use of these often safer, cheaper, and more readily available therapeutical means.

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Terrorism won't wash

MONDAY'S ACT of cowardice against the Royal Jordanian Airlines office in Madrid is just another manifestation of the political and moral bankruptcy of those who have been trying repeatedly and unsuccessfully over the past few years to terrorise Jordan from the political course it has pursued. It seems that the terrorists, who no doubt are linked to or even are an extension of the same group which hijacked and exploded a Jordanian plane earlier this month, have not yet grasped the lesson from their previous failure. They seem determined to make use of Jordan's patience and strong commitment to the power of word, hoping — out of naivety or more likely just out of sheer ruthlessness and spite — that Jordan would kneel to terrorism.

But as we assert once more that such acts will not and cannot make Jordan budge an inch from its political line to which we are totally committed, we cannot but strongly deplore and condemn the attacks against Jordan's ambassador to the world, Alia. Like all cowards of their ilk, the terrorists believe that by striking at a vital sector of the Jordanian economy, in the hope that such attacks would paralyse Alia, and by risking innocent peoples' lives, they will attain their destructive goals.

There is no need to repeat that such dirty plays can never succeed with Jordan. But as we are dealing with a group, which, blinded by hatred, fails to grasp the fact that Jordan's position is unshakable simply because it stems from a deeply entrenched commitment and dedication to Arab national goals and aspirations, there is no alternative but to find a different deterrent to deal with such irrationality.

Jordan's and Jordanian's patience is wearing out and prompt action should be taken to quash such acts which infringe on the country's dignity and which threaten innocent peoples' lives.

Hiding behind elusive names such as "the oppressed" — the name of the group which so far has declared responsibility for the Madrid attack — will not help the perpetrators to escape from law and justice. Moreover such acts only strengthen Jordan's determination and resolve and thereby negate the motives behind such senseless acts.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Look who's talking

JUST BEFORE the American hostage crisis ended in Beirut Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted as saying that Tel Aviv will continue to confront terrorism and calling on all world nations to help in combating terror. It is indeed strange to hear the call coming from a well-known terrorist who has killed many Arabs in Palestine as well as a U.N. envoy in Jerusalem in 1949. Shamir is considered the godfather of terrorism and a leader of a society that has assumed acts of terror against innocent people as a profession. Combating terrorism should start by combating Israel's acts of terrorism in all its forms and everywhere in the Arab World.

Apart from killing Arab inhabitants in Palestine and launching raids on neighbouring Arab countries, Israel has been practicing political terrorism on the Arabs and has been obstructing all paths leading to real peace in this region. Above all Israel pursues a policy of intimidation and terror against the Palestinian Arabs denying them their rights in their homeland and depriving them of their livelihoods and their lands. It is time for the international community to put an end to terrorism committed by Israel, and one way to do that is through Jordanian-PLO efforts designed to achieve peace and security for all in this region.

Al Dustour: A bad omen for Arabs

THE PITIABLE outcome of the Arab League Council meetings in Tunis carries with it a bad omen for the coming demise of the Arab League that has been eroded continuously as a result of irresponsible actions of its members and lack of harmony among member states. Perhaps the continuous failure of the Arab League and its impotence in shouldering its responsibilities have prompted a number of Arab states to form their own regional groupings and treaties so that they can safeguard their interests outside the framework of the Arab League.

The outcome of the Tunis meeting, which ended Sunday, makes it impossible for a sane person to believe that the Arab League still has any life left it, and that there is any hope of reviving its role. The downward trend has been going on for so long now and it is a matter of time when the Arabs would officially announce the Arab League's demise, now that certain Arab states have begun openly announcing their alliance with the enemies of the Arab Nation. We are really pained to watch all that coming true and it is regrettable to see the Arab leaders lacking power and will to do anything to save the day.

Sawt Al Shaab: Arab image tarnished

WITH THE transfer of the American hostages from Beirut to Damascus another hijacking drama comes to an end and another show of terror in Lebanon comes to a conclusion. Whatever the justifications for hijacking the airliner and seizing innocent people hostage there should be no backing for those terrorists who endanger people's lives and practice terror that has harmed the reputation of Lebanon and the Arab World at large.

The investigations going on in the hijacking of the Jordanian and American planes in Beirut revealed that the air piracy carried out upon orders from an Arab capital, and that the Shiite Amal movement was only a tool to help carry out this ignominious act. The hijackings, according to early results of these investigations, proved to be designed to serve as an expression of that Arab capital's opposition to and rejection of certain attitudes by Arab and foreign nations.

The war of genocide waged against the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon were much the same in form and objective. Only desperate people resort to acts of terror in expression of feelings and attitudes. Therefore, one can only conclude that such acts of terrorism usher in a new dangerous stage fraught with conspiracies and plotting against the security and stability of the Arab region.

Barbarism and political savagery: The choice is still ours

By Rami G. Khouri

NOW THAT the American hostages are free from their captivity in Beirut, and the American people are relieved at being spared another long, harrowing experience like the Tehran hostage crisis, Americans should have time and opportunity to think about other things. They would do well in start thinking about when the next American hostage crisis will take place, when the next American installation will be bombed, how the United States will react, and what can be done to prevent such episodes.

For as sure as the sun came up this morning, there will be more violence against American interests in the Middle East for years to come. When the American hostages were held in Tehran, many of us around here who call the Holy Land home warned that further anti-American violence would surely follow, and of a magnitude that would make the Tehran hostage drama look relatively mild.

Sure enough, it did, in the form of suicide bombings against the American embassy in Beirut and the American Marines deployed at Beirut airport, with hundreds of Americans killed in the process. Private American individuals and institutions have also been threatened throughout the Middle East.

Regrettable and inhuman as it may be, none of this is surprising, given the political circumstances of the area and the history of American partiality in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

I am astounded to see that most stories in the American press suggesting methods to prevent future hostage crises have concentrated on physical means, such as improving security checks and intelligence gathering, boycotting airports

with lax security measures, or retaliating against countries that harbour terrorists.

Along with this line of thinking, we hear United States President Ronald Reagan labelling out at the hijackers and calling them "barbarians" and "thugs". They may well be these and even worse things, and Mr. Reagan may get some presidential-size relief by calling the hijackers such terrible names. But in the end, this is not going to assure the safety of Americans in the Middle East. Rather, it will only assure the inevitability of more attacks against Americans, for no physical security system in the world is going to assure absolute security against determined bombers, hijackers or hostage-takers.

I am amazed that in all the talk about how the United States could prevent future ordeals of this sort, few voices have suggested what is, in me and most of the rest of us who live around here, the obvious: you prevent hijackings by giving no motive for hijackers to act. You prevent violence against Americans in the Middle East by preventing violence by Americans — or financed and armed by Americans — in the Middle East.

It's a simple equation, requiring no anger, guns or silly displays of macho. When you're good, the world is good back to you. When you condone or support killing and political abuse, you get the same thing thrown back at you.

I would suggest that between rantings about barbarians and talk about military retaliation, Americans consider a much more humane and less costly way to assure the safety of their citizens abroad.

Americans who wish to see their presence in the area revert to one of normalcy and security should make a rational review of American policy in the region during the past four decades.

Americans should not dishonour their political heritage by implementing a Middle Eastern policy often based on double-standards, shame and self-deception.

Americans should not claim to oppose violence and terrorism by states, while financing violence and terrorism by their Israeli strategic partners.

Americans should not say they value freedom and liberty while financing and acquiescing in the 18-year-old Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights.

Americans should not claim they oppose Israeli settlements if they also provide the money and markets that allows those settlements to be built, flourish and expand.

Americans should not claim they value the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Lebanon after they have gone along with, and subsequently financially rewarded, Israel for its three-year-old invasion and occupation of the southern half of Lebanon.

Americans should not plead innocence about being hated by many Lebanese, after the American president boasted about the big fleet of warships he gathered off the Lebanese coast two years ago, and used it in unprovoked attacks against many parts of Lebanon.

Americans should not substitute guns for reason, and then be surprised that the guns didn't work, and reason did not prevail among the minds of those who were the targets of the American guns.

Americans should not be surprised that militant Arabs use guns against American civilians, given the history of American guns that have killed Arab civilians, and American armaments and money that Israel has used repeatedly to kill Arab civilians.

In the Middle East as in southern Africa, Americans should not support unrepresentative governments that give special privileges to minorities while denying equal rights to the majority of the people. And if they do, they should not act so surprised if the majority suddenly wakes up and starts fighting back.

Americans should not preach falsely about their love of liberty and equality, when their policy in the Middle East has been based on an officially stated imbalance that puts Israeli security above all other considerations in the area, including the rights of the Palestinians and the existing Arab states.

Americans should not claim to be impartial, when they provide Israel with \$3.5 billion a year in aid and offer the Palestinians only the right "to participate in the determination of their own future."

Americans should not talk duplicitously about the sacredness of international law when they not only routinely disregard clear Israeli violations of international laws and conventions, but also provide Israel with the aid that allows it to continue the violations.

Americans should not preach the virtues of "societies of laws" when the United States government itself is shamefully unwilling to implement its own laws that require sanctions against states such as Israel that use American arms for non-

defensive purposes in third countries.

And most important of all, Americans and their Leaders should stop adding insult to injury by seeming so surprised every time American lives or interests are threatened in the Middle East, and replying with racist remarks implying that the Arab and/or Muslim mind is partial to fanaticism, barbarism, violence and human suffering. Much as we may all dislike it, the fact is that Arab or Iranian terror against the United States did not suddenly emerge from a vacuum one day, when Arabs and/or Iranians suddenly decided that Americans made good targets. Calling the terrorists barbarians or thugs or anything else will not change this fact. The sooner the American people start to distinguish between responses that make them feel better, and responses that will make them safe again in the Middle East, the better it will be for all of us who would like to see American-Arab relations restored to a rational basis.

I would hope that Americans would wake up to the political and military ravages being carried out in the area in their name, or with their money, arms and political support. Like Americans, Arabs also have a threshold of patience. But ours was not reached in days after a hijacking. It was first reached at some vague point in the late 1960s, and again in the late 1970s, and the area has never been the same since. The Arab threshold of patience, pain, humiliation and suffering was reached after more than half a century of hearing the same United States government that talked about liberty and freedom and self-determination patently ignore

the Palestinians who were demanding only these things.

The imperative for Americans now is to look again at the Middle East, and identify factors that are likely to keep American lives in jeopardy in the area. I would specifically ask Americans to ask themselves:

Are you supporting, financing or acceding to the military occupation of Arab lands?

Are you preventing any Arab people from enjoying the right of self-determination?

Are you backing any governments that do not have the full support of their own people?

Are you promoting the emergence of moderate and reasonable leaders in Israel and the Arab World, or are your policies fostering a diplomatic stalemate that will inevitably promote the rise of militarism and extremism in both Israel and the Arab World?

Are you living up to the principles of Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points, or dishonouring them?

Are you giving life to Martin Luther King's dream of a world in which all people are free, proud and at peace, or are you disowning the dream, or only excluding the Palestinians from it?

And finally, are you promoting the moral barbarism you disdain by practising a brand of political savagery that you may not fully appreciate is within your powers, or on your historical record in the Middle East?

We can deal with these issues now, or we can wait for a few more hijackings and hostage-taking incidents. The choice has always been ours. That's how things work in the world where barbarians fear to tread.

Numeiri leaves troublesome legacy in southern Sudan

By Ed Hooper

In the final Numeiri years, only 8-15 per cent of the south's budgetary allowance was actually released by Khartoum.

WHEN THE Anglo-Egyptian condominium granted independence to the Sudan in 1956, the South had just a handful of young men trained to secondary school level, and one functioning industrial complex at Nazeera, near Yambou, producing cotton, soap and cooking oil. Since then the region has continued to be treated by Khartoum with short-sightedness and even contempt. Seventeen years of civil war failed to convince the predominantly Muslim north that their African Christian/animist brethren meant business, until a younger, and wiser, President Numeiri granted the South a degree of regional autonomy with the Addis Ababa accord of 1972.

The Addis Ababa agreement gave the South its high executive council, and a set of new government offices in Juba, but otherwise little changed. A gaggle of development projects were committed to paper, and then left to moulder in the filing cabinets. The Wau cannery factory and brewery, the Mongalla industrial scheme — the list runs on. Sometimes a foundation stone was laid, sometimes the buildings were erected, but no machinery arrived. At Mongalla, millions of dollars of Danish-funded high technology was delivered, only to be left to rust in the bush. In the final Mr. Numeiri years, only 8-15 per cent of the South's budgetary allowance was

beadquarters of Juba, and where a largely Bantu population had grown to resent what it viewed as the Nilotic domination and persecution of the previous 11 years. The other two regions of Upper Nile and Bahr Al-Ghazal were less enthusiastic about the new set-up, especially when the Nilotics, and the Dinka in particular, were pressurised to return to their home regions. Administrators, policemen and cattle-herders departed in large numbers.

The SPLA, under the leadership of Colonel John Garang de Mabior, came into being in early 1983, when a move to relocate southern soldiers to the North, in contravention of the Addis Ababa agreement, led to mutinies at Bor, Pibor and Pochalla. After repression, and the establishment of Sharia law, the Dinka-dominated movement came into its own. By 1984 it effectively controlled a huge swathe of territory stretching from A Kobo and Nasir, on the Ethiopian border, across to Bentiu, Tonj in Bahr Al-Ghazal, and Gemmeiza on the Nile. The Jonglei canal and the Bentiu oil-fields were attacked and expatriates taken hostage. As the SPLA began mining roads and ambushing army convoys and river steamers, development and commercial activity in the two regions came to a complete halt. Not

tried to retrace their steps towards Upper Nile, while others simply surrendered when they ran out of food and water.

The Equatorial administration, under the lack-lustre leadership of Governor James Tombura (who was, at the time, denying accusations of misappropriating £560,000 intended for famine relief), tried to exploit the army victory to the full. An anti-SPLA rally was staged, with Arab merchants, small boys and a group of rather nervous Juba citizens in attendance. Exaggerated accounts of rape and murder by guerrillas were broadcast, together with testimonies from schoolboys who had joined the rebels and later fled, after allegedly being used as

International assistance seems gratuitously superimposed on a basic administrative structure.

porters and given inadequate food rations, "because we were not Dinkas". Finally Tombura addressed the crowd: "If you open your door and find a Dinka, get a rope and tie him up." In the next few days, those Dinkas who had remained in Juba were arrested and thrown into jail. At least two died in custody.

The April coup met with a muted response in the South: most people simply carried on with their normal Easter celebrations. Then the transitional military council in Khartoum announced that the south would return to one region, although it would continue to be administered as three, under military governors, for an unspecified interim period. The Equatorial response to reunification was hostile — trade unions and graduates' associations held meetings and protest marches to contest the issue. According to one resident, Equatoria's new military governor, Major-General Peter Cirillo, began by "doing the Muslim". Television services were restored, streetlights blazed throughout the night, and water supplies became available on a more or less regular basis. Much of this became possible only because Cirillo leant on Western aid agencies to supplement the region's dwindling stocks of fuel. More practically, Tombura's ministers have been arrested, and businessmen ordered to reduce the prices of essential commodities. Not all corruption has been dealt with so ruthlessly, however. Juba's taxis still run on black market fuel purchased from "sources close to the army", and the military continues

There is just no money for recurrent expenditure and salaries. International assistance on a smaller scale has, however, been of real benefit to those in the rural areas. Ox-drawn water teams pour the villages rehabilitating springs and wells. Agencies like Acreas have done wonders in the Ugandan refugee settlements, providing food, bore holes and initiating income-generating schemes.

Meanwhile, some agencies are beginning to assist the churches in attempting to mobilise food relief for those cut off in the strife-torn areas. Central government has now declared the south a disaster zone, and requested Col. Garang's cooperation in allowing relief supplies through. Col. Garang is unlikely to comply — the SPLA's whole strategy depends on starving the isolated garrisons into submission. Rumbek, in Bahr Al-Ghazal, has been affected by famine for almost six months now. There is a SPLA camp of about 3,000 men not far from the town, and the last food convoy to reach there had to proceed at walking pace for the last three days, as the military escort checked the road for mines and combed the surrounding bush. A senior Dinka official, one of several SPLA supporters in the aid agencies and civil service, said: "My father is in Rumbek, but even if he dies I shall have to accept it. This is just part of the sacrifice we all have to make. The liberation of the people come before individuals." — Middle East International, London.

Romanov fades away from Kremlin

MOSCOW — Grigory Romanov, dropped Monday from the Soviet Communist Party's ruling politburo, was for a time identified as one of the main rivals to Mikhail Gorbachev for the party leadership.

But after Gorbachev's appointment to the post last March, the man regarded as one of the politburo's most hardline members faded from view rapidly.

The official TASS news agency said Romanov, 62, had asked to be relieved of his two posts as politburo member and party Central Committee secretary "in connection with retirement on health grounds."

Romanov represented Moscow at the Hungarian Communist Party Congress in late March, and attended 40th anniversary ceremonies in Red Square on May 9, but was not seen in public for several weeks afterwards, causing Western diplomats to speculate that he was in political difficulty. A stocky but distinguished-looking man with swept-back white hair and a reputation as a hard drinker, Romanov was linked for almost 50 years with the Soviet Union's second city, Leningrad, before being assigned to Moscow as a Central Committee secretary in June 1983.

The move, essential advancement for a would-be national leader, led Western analysts to consider him a potential successor when President Yuri Andropov died in February 1984.

But with the election of Konstantin Chernenko and the rapid emergence of Gorbachev, then 52 and Romanov's junior by eight years, as heir-apparent, the former Leningrad party chief appeared to adopt a less public profile for several months.

Romanov's gradual return to the limelight was reflected in his speeches on East-West Affairs and in a trip to Addis Ababa in September 1984 for the 10th anniversary of Ethiopia's left-wing revolution.

When Defence Minister Dmitri Ustinov fell ill later that year, Romanov was again mentioned as a candidate for one of the country's most prestigious jobs. He shared Ustinov's background in civilian politics and his party responsibilities were thought to include oversight of the defence industry.

But after Ustinov's death in December 1984, the defence portfolio went to a career soldier, Sergei Sokolov. Diplomats interpreted the appointment as possible evidence that Romanov had set his sights higher, on the supreme title of party chief.

As one of only four men apart from Chernenko to combine the powerful positions of politburo member and Central Committee secretary, Romanov still seemed in the running to fill the ageing leader's post. The others were



Grigory Romanov

Gorbachev and the less prominent Vladimir Doligikh and Boris Ponomarev.

But Romanov had little on his record in match a highly publicised and apparently successful visit to Britain which Gorbachev made shortly before Ustinov's death and which seemed to confirm his position as the Kremlin's number two.

Elected a non-voting member of the politburo in 1973 at the age of 50, and promoted to full membership three years later, Romanov was the youngest man in the Soviet Union's chief executive body until Gorbachev's election in 1980.

He is regarded as an efficient organiser and when he was Leningrad party chief from 1970 to 1983, he revamped the city's industry, which is central to Soviet arms production.

Born of peasant stock on Feb. 7, 1923, near the ancient city of Novgorod south of Leningrad, Romanov has the uncertain distinction of bearing the same family name as the last dynasty of Russian Sars whom the Bolsheviks overthrew in 1917.

Although foreign observers thought it unlikely Romanov's name was considered a hindrance in the power play of the Kremlin, many ordinary Soviets thought it made him too prone to popular jokes to be a leader.

One incident added to this. While Leningrad party chief he was reliably reported to have borrowed Catherine the Great's 18th-century dinner service from the Winter Palace Museum for his daughter's wedding during which some pieces were smashed.

The politburo is now seen to be dominated by an inner circle of Gorbachev allies, headed by ideology and personnel chief Yegor Ligachev and economy chief Nikolai Rykhtkov, both promoted from the post of secretary in April. Mr. Romanov's successor as Leningrad Party chief, 62-year-old Lev Zaitkov, was one of the two men promoted to secretary Monday.

Jordanian venture makes major forays into world of TV and films

This is the second of a two-part article on the Jordan Company for TV, Radio and Cinema Productions, a private company that has taken upon its shoulders to produce quality programmes for radio and television in Jordan. The first part was published in the Tuesday, June 18 Jordan Times.

By Josephine Zamaniri
Special to the Jordan Times

"OUR AIM is to provide the best production facilities in the Arab World and to create excellent T.V. series and documentaries," proclaims Mr. Tariq Masarwah, the benevolent dictator of Jordan's budding T.V. and film industry. Started only three years ago, he continues, the Jordan Company for T.V., Radio and Cinema Production has made significant inroads into even the stronghold of Arab film and T.V. works — Egypt — and has had brilliant successes throughout the Arab World. The company, like Managing Director Masarwah, is vibrant, vocal and somewhat unconventional, making both obvious in the sober town of Amman. Originally conceived by the

Jordanian Board of National Planning, the Production outfit is now a shareholding company with members ranging from the Pension Fund, Social Security, the Postal Savings Bank, the Jordanian government with a 26 per cent share, to a Saudi financier, the only non-Jordanian in the company, and around five thousand small shareholders. Creative input is entirely the company's however. "Nobody interferes," says Mr. Masarwah, raising bushy eyebrows, and firmly signalling with index finger an end to even the beginning of such possibilities.

With almost paternal pride, he discusses the company's history and future projects. Sitting forward slightly, he starts with the new studios now under construction, which will "provide fac-

ilities for Jordanian and Arab producers to work in the most up-to-date studios, instead of renting space in either Greece, Rome or London, where costs are doubled."

The two studios, with the post production facilities, to be completed by November, will provide highly-skilled Jordanian technicians as well.

With a slight but cynical hand gesture, he branches into a criticism of the Arab film market, which he describes as lousy. "Can you imagine producing 'War and Peace' for \$200,000 an hour if you cannot sell it for \$200,000 an hour. In the Arab World, there are stations that pay \$700 an hour for a series and broadcast them as frequently as they want. How can you produce TV series under such circumstances?"

Mr. Masarwah believes that Jordanian TV productions emerged at a time when Arab audiences were saturated with Egyptian video and film entertainment. His company first

produced five Egyptian-style series "which were by no means a success", whilst later entirely Jordanian material proved enormously popular.

The company's past activities were not limited to series, as two variety programmes, Studio 84 and 85 were hits from Morocco to Yemen and even successfully invaded the citadel of the Egyptian market. Studios 84 and 85 collected together singers, dancers and musicians from all over the Arab World, including some elderly entertainers who "brought back memories to us middle aged people", quipped the grey-haired Masarwah.

Later, historical dramas added to the company's string of successes. Produced in classical Arabic and marketed throughout the region, they were highly appreciated, particularly in North Africa.

Peering over his glasses, as if looking into the future, Mr. Masarwah discusses some of the heady projects of the next few years.

Crossing his legs, he relaxes and talks fondly of a documentary series, "the heritage of Islamic and Arab civilisation", which concentrates on "the architecture of mosques, inns and of cities." The series will be directed at the young who have some knowledge of the Arabic alphabet.

One project which obviously gives him great pleasure is the serial "The Mills". A one hundred per cent Jordanian production, it deals with unheeded consumerism in the Arab World. Set in a small village, the story shows the excesses of the inhabitants who "get rich quick" after selling their lands. The voice of reason prevails in the person of an old woman supported by the younger generation, who represent to both Mr. Masarwah and the series, the hope of a new Arab World.

Recently released were two other programmes. Firstly, the "Difficult Decision", which was shown on local television in the second half of Ramadan, and later "Azab" a series with a Bedouin theme.

Also planned for international release is a joint Jordanian-German production of "light adventures", set in some of Jordan's most scenic areas: Petra, Wadi Rumm, Umm Qais etc. Written by Dr. Mohammad Abadi with German and English stars the series will be produced in both languages and with Arabic subtitles.

For Mr. Masarwah and the local film and television industry, all obstacles can be overcome. "We have a limited number of actors, and we cannot put them in every series". To counter the problem, students at Yarmouk and the Jordan Universities are encouraged to act. "You should see their ability," he says enthusiastically. "Actors cannot live on our productions alone," he adds "there should be other avenues: theatre or television where young talents can earn bread".

Jordan has excellent writers, he continues, and any problems involving scripts can be solved by "putting writer and director together where they can work together to produce the script."

"Our directors are highly educated, although young," he beams, and with a hearty laugh adds, "well they must be good as we trust them with a lot of money".

Future income for the Jordan Company for Television, Radio and Cinema Production will not only come from their TV productions. Mr. Masarwah sees excellent possibilities in renting their studio facilities along with Jordanian expertise, including camera men, assistant directors, actors and even trained animals, all at a significantly lower figure than any European locations. "The future (of the film and TV industry) is to go to the Third World," he says.

And what of the company with Mr. Masarwah at the helm: "I want to see good production, and I want to see this company go international," aims certainly achievable, given the creative and dynamic potentials of both Managing Director Masarwah and his staff.

Bangladesh has short memory for disasters

By Nurul Huda
Earthscan

DHAKA — Bangladeshis have to be good at starting over. For the 33rd time in less than 25 years they have been hit by cyclones and floods which have left survivors destitute.

Fifteen years ago their country, one of the most densely populated on earth, endured one of the worst disasters on record. A severe cyclone killed as many as 300,000 people, leaving several million more homeless. This year's cyclone was the worst since that time.

The latest disaster struck the coastal districts of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Noakhali, Feni and Bhola, killing up to 10,000 and forcing 200,000 people to flee to higher ground. An estimated 250,000 thatched houses were washed away, together with 200,000 cattle. Crops on about 202,000 hectares of land were also destroyed, making future food shortages inevitable. The country's leader, General Ershad, appealed for \$50 million in aid.

Much of Bangladesh is a flat, low, ever-expanding delta of the Ganges and Brahmaputra river system. Rich silt carried by the rivers is deposited to form new land on the coast and new islands offshore, a process that has been going on for centuries.

As cyclones are a regular natural occurrence here, it is obvious that an accurate and effective early warning system is indispensable. The radio warnings broadcast before this storm were inaccurate and failed to convey the appropriate sense of urgency and danger.

This complacency may have been due to the fact that there have been no major cyclones since 1970. Radio networks in Dhaka had even stopped broadcasting special weather reports, despite requests from meteorological department officials. At least 1.2 million of the 5.5 million hit by the cyclone were caught unawares.

In 1970, hundreds of thousands of Bangladeshis were killed in a legendary cyclone, many of them with no early warning of its arrival. Despite government promises to improve disaster preparedness, this May up to 10,000 died in another cyclone — once again unwarned.

There is no effective communication link between the mainland and many of the smaller islands. Where such links do exist, poverty may render them useless. About 10,000 people living on the worst hit islet of Utrishchar had no radios to receive warnings.

Many of those who survived remained afloat in the rough water by holding onto dead cows for as long as 17 hours before they could swim ashore or were rescued by fishermen. Both victims and survivors were mainly peasant refugees from other parts of Bangladesh, some driven from their land by soil erosion. Others were working as farmhands, staking land claims for rich absentee farmers.

In the view of Jasimuddin Ahmad, director of the Bangladesh Meteorology Department, "an improved cyclone preparedness programme should cover all the coastal and offshore areas". But critics say that even the existing inadequate facilities are not used effectively.

Mr. Ahmad has suggested the erection of towers to convey siren warnings to wider coastal areas, along with a scheme to educate people on the meaning of the signals. But, as Hamiduzzaman Chowdhury, deputy director of the department has admitted, "Our weather forecasts are not always accurate or pinpointed".

The government has set up an enquiry committee to assess the deficiencies in the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP). The CPP was established in 1972, in response to the last big cyclone, with assistance from the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Of the 34 coastal and offshore sub-districts, 11 are yet to be covered by the programme. Hanun-Ur-Rashid, deputy director of CPP, claims that his dep-

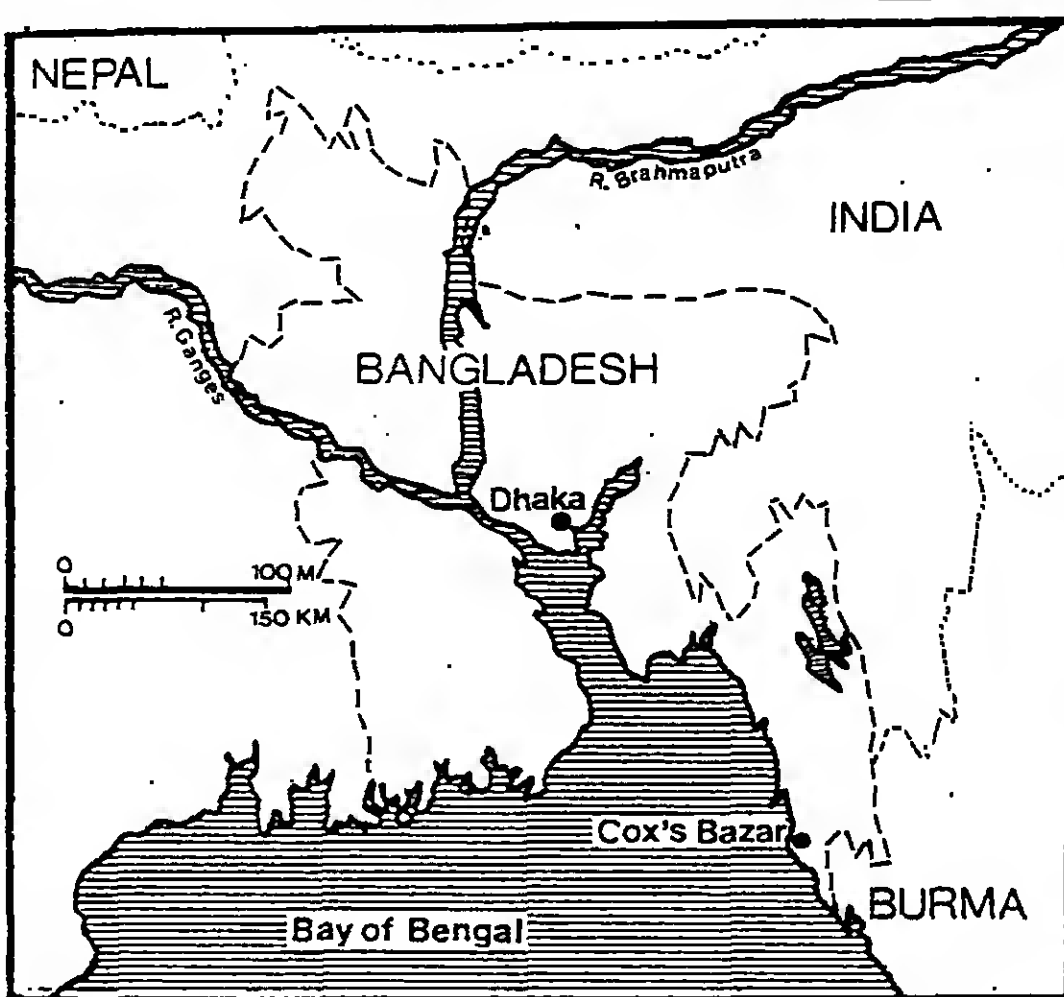
artment has a fairly well developed network for relaying the cyclone warning through field stations in the areas covered by CPP. "But it is not possible for us to expand our network in the far-flung islets on our budget, which has not increased since 1973".

At a cost of approximately \$60 million, cyclone shelters were constructed in the coastal areas and islands between 1973 and 1979. Many of these subsequently developed defects and collapsed. Despite this experience, the government intends to build more such shelters. Construction of a dam south of Dhaka is also planned, to lessen the damage done by cyclonic storms and tidal surges, and to help accelerate land accretion.

A mangrove plantation programme undertaken to stabilise the islands and coastal areas in 1965 was intensified following the 1970 storm. According to Azdul Huq, assistant chief conservator of forests, the plantations should accelerate the process of land formation and help to anchor the soil. But only 4,000 hectares of new plantation is planned by 1990, a fraction of what is needed.

Today many unburied, decomposed corpses, carcasses and a shortage of pure water threaten the health of survivors. Their immediate future depends on a government evacuation and resettlement programme. But officials have yet to announce when and how this will take place.

Sceptics fear that many of the long-term disaster preparedness measures which the government has announced are unlikely to fully materialise. These same survivors may live to face future storms in the same way as they faced this one — unwarned and unprepared.



Marlowe devotee pursues crusade against Shakespeare

By Matt Wolf
The Associated Press

CANTERBURY, England — American writer Calvin Hoffman is in England to complete his lifelong argument: William Shakespeare's 36 plays were written by fellow playwright Christopher Marlowe, not Shakespeare.

"This is unmistakable evidence," said Hoffman proudly of a burial record he claims to have unearthed which climaxes a campaign to vindicate Marlowe at the expense of his illustrious contemporary, the Bard.

The elderly poet and erstwhile critic told the Associated Press he can prove Marlowe died not in a British pub brawl in 1593 but lived on in hiding in Italy until 1627 — 11 years after Shakespeare's death.

Hoffman came to England from the Italian city of Padua, where he said he found the entry of one "Santo Merlo" in the 1627 burial records — a name which Hoffman says is an acceptable Italian variant on Marlowe.

The evidence may seem slender to those unfamiliar with the theories of who was Shakespeare, but not to Hoffman. "The proof is overwhelming," he said.

If Marlowe lived in Italy and wrote the plays, it could explain the number of Shakespearean works set in Italy: "The Merchant of Venice," "Two Gentlemen of Verona," "Romeo and Juliet," "Measure for Measure," "Much Ado About Nothing."

"We know that Shakespeare never travelled, so how could he have known so much about Italy?" asked Hoffman, who is spending the summer as a research fellow at King's School in Canterbury, which Marlowe attended prior to Cambridge University.

Marlowe was born in Canterbury, the town famous for its Chaucerian associations, in 1564, the same year as Shakespeare.

Hoffman's Italian discovery signals the writer's third — and final — attempt to offer conclusive proof of his theory. This trip marks his 35th visit to England since his initial visit in 1949.

"This finishes a life's work," said Hoffman, who was disappointed in 1956 and 1984 when efforts to locate additional Marlowe manuscripts in the family tomb of Marlowe's patron Sir Thomas Walsingham yielded only sand and debris.

Hoffman had wanted to prove that Marlowe was sending scripts to Walsingham from Italy, thereby explaining the themes of exile and banishment that recur in Shakespeare's plays.

A self-described classicist, Hoffman embarked on his crusade after graduating from Columbia

University in 1937. His books on the topic are the 1955 "The Murder of the Man Who Was Shakespeare" and the 1975 "The Undying Quest: Was It Shakespeare or Marlowe?"

His theory rejects the widely accepted opinion that Shakespeare began emerging as a playwright in 1592-3 with the "Henry VI," "Richard III" tetralogy.

It also denies the competing minority viewpoint that Francis Bacon wrote the plays and passed them off on the Bard so as not to sully his own reputation as a statesman.

Hoffman said he first became aware of a "blood bond" between Shakespeare and Marlowe while taking a literary breather from a verse play that he was writing.

"Stylistically and creatively, I was struck by the similarities — in vocabulary, imagery, topical allusion, philosophy, everything," Hoffman said.

"All the Marlowe I was reading had the look, the feel, the heart of Shakespeare," he said.

"But I knew that all the plays of Shakespeare appeared after Marlowe's supposed slaying by Ingram Frizer," he said. "I knew that I would have to prove that whatever slaying did in fact occur had nothing to do with Marlowe."

Hoffman emphasised that not literary chronicles of the Elizabethan period mention Shakespeare as a writer. Indeed, so little is known of Shakespeare's life that it is like a blank slate on which others have long composed theories of the play's authorship.

"Shakespeare was never identified by anyone personally as the writer of his plays," Hoffman said.

Hoffman stressed that he has no harsh feelings towards Shakespeare.

Philippines bites more than it can chew with 'monster of Morong'

By Joel Palacios
Reuters

BALANGA, Philippines — The Philippine government may have unleashed more trouble than it expected with a two-billion-dollar nuclear power plant west of Manila that local people call "the monster of Morong".

A campaign against the nearly-completed plant is growing more intense, and now residents say Communist insurgents have started to exploit the controversy.

Opponents of the power station at Morong on the Bataan Peninsula, about 80 kilometres from the capital, argue that it is unnecessary, expensive and unsafe. They say it has been built on the slope of a dormant volcano, near a seismic fault and within a ring of five volcanoes.

Fishermen are worried that the plant, standing on a scenic promontory overlooking the South China Sea, could destroy their fishing grounds.

In the latest and highest public protest, nearly 20,000 people rejected government statements that the power plant is safe and is needed as an energy source to replace imported oil. They joined marches and a three-day strike which paralysed eight towns in Bataan last week.

A senior military commander charged that the Communist New People's Army (NPA) tried to infiltrate the demonstration to cause trouble.

"People are convinced the plant is dangerous," a Bataan bus driver said. "The NPA is getting stronger here because it has sided with the people in their fight against the Morong monster."

Ambrosio Padilla, one of the protest leaders, said, "That plant is not only unsafe, it is also unnecessary and expensive."

The plant was to have been test-fired last September. But a group called Nuclear-Free Philippines forced the government to delay until the National Power Corporation (NPC) secured an operating licence from the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC), which is holding public hearings on safety of the plant.

Government experts told the PAEC last week the plant was built to withstand strong earthquakes.

A government witness said high-voltage cables at the plant were subject to frequent flooding. However, the inquiry was told they had withstood the effects even though they were not designed for underwater conditions.

Westinghouse Electric Corporation, which built the plant, cannot turn it over until the NPC gets a licence. About 40 Westinghouse personnel who supervised construction and were to have left at the end of July now seem likely to stay longer.

Energy Ministry officials say the 620-megawatt nuclear plant is needed to replace imported oil.

It will supply more than 10 per cent of the energy needs of Luzon, the Philippines' main island, they say.

Construction of the plant began in 1976. The world oil crisis had sent the Philippines' fuel import bill from \$230 million to \$680 million. Projected cost of the plant then was about \$1.1 billion.

But work was suspended in 1979 amid demands that safety features be reviewed as a result of the accident at the three mile island nuclear plant in the United States.

When construction resumed after 18 months, new safety measures and other factors had added about one billion dollars to the bill.

The delay in the plant's operation is costing the government \$355,000 a day in loan interest alone, Energy Minister Geromino Velasco said recently. "The delay cost has reached \$95.8 million since September last year."

"The government is worried about their expenses but not about what will happen to us and our lands if there is an accident at the plant," a farmer told Reuters during the strike.

Marcial Apuhin said he, five members of his family, and 50 other people from a village near Morong, had walked 15 kilometres to join the rally because "we believe it is right".

The demonstrators were not deterred by troops, riot police and armoured vehicles or by pouring rain.

They blocked roads with tree trunks, boulders and sandbags. Several thousand factory and office workers, including local government staff, joined the strike along with fishermen and shopkeepers.

Hammer and sickle flags fluttered over barricades manned by youths wearing red headbands and chanting "welga" (strike) and "revolution".

"What is important is closure of the plant," said leaflets distributed by strike organisers. "We will not give up until the monster of Morong is killed. The issue is the health and safety of our generation and the generation to come."

Air India crash brings Sikhs abroad into focus

By Robert H. Reid
The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — India's government is using the shock of last weekend's Air India crash to focus attention on Sikh militants abroad and press foreign governments to crack down on them.

Without waiting for a final judgement on the cause of the crash, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi reportedly wrote Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to express concern over extremists within Canada's estimated 200,000-member Sikh community.

The letter, as reported by the respected Times of India, followed claims by two Sikh militant groups that they planted a bomb on the plane, which crashed June 23 off the Irish coast on a flight from Montreal, Canada, to India.

Government spokesman Salman Haider confirmed a letter was sent but refused to disclose its contents. The Times of India reported that the letter complained "that enough was not being done by the Canadian government" to curb Sikh terrorism.

Although investigators have determined what caused the crash, the third worst in aviation history, it is widely believed among ordinary Indians that Sikhs were responsible.

Canadian diplomats, who refused to be named, confirmed that the problem of Sikh militants in Canada was discussed last week during a meeting between Indian

Foreign Secretary Ramesh Bhandari and Canada's high commissioner William Warden.

They said Mr. Warden assured Mr. Bhandari that Canada would step up cooperation with India against Sikh extremists.

Regardless of what caused the crash, allegations of Sikh involvement have focused international attention again on the campaign by militant members of the 13-million strong religious minority for a separate Sikh nation in India's northwestern Punjab state.

The Indian government has frequently charged that Sikhs living in Britain, Canada, the United States and Europe provide financial support to militants in Punjab as well as safe haven beyond the reach of Indian authorities.

Last March, Mr. Gandhi, whose mother the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by two Sikh bodyguards, announced that the government had identified 27 Sikh militant groups operating outside the country.

Indian officials have complained that foreign governments have been lax in curbing the militants because they are not a threat to the countries in which they reside.

Last April, Canada refused to extradite a Sikh activist accused in the murder of two Indian policemen because the man has taken Canadian citizenship and there is no extradition treaty between the two countries.

The Indians have been encouraged by signs the United States is beginning to take seriously the problem.

During Mr. Gandhi's June visit to the United States, U.S. President Ronald Reagan agreed to cooperate on curbing "international terrorist violence against India," an apparent reference to combating Sikh separatists living in the United States.

On May 13 in advance of Mr. Gandhi's visit, the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation announced it had uncovered a plot to kill the Indian prime minister and had arrested five Sikhs. Two suspects are still at large.

Indian complaints over Britain's alleged failure to crack down on Sikh militants, especially the outspoken separatist leader Dr. Jagjit Singh Chohan, have led to what Indian newspaper term "severe strains" in relations between the two countries.

Newspapers here have speculated that the disagreement over the status of militant Sikhs in Britain may have figured in the New Delhi government's refusal to purchase 21 British-made Westland helicopters for use by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

The British government has warned that if Indians do not purchase the helicopters, India will lose \$45 million (\$58 million) of a \$115-million pound (\$148-million) British aid package, which includes financing for the deal.

Soviet vodka lovers switch to champagne

By Alan Philips
Reuters

YALTA, Soviet Union — Russians who find their favourite strong liquor disappearing under the Kremlin's new anti-alcoholism campaign may still drown their sorrows — if they can afford champagne.

Officials at the Soviet Union's top wine-making institute in this Black Sea resort say they plan to nearly double the output of Soviet bubbly to about 500 million bottles a year.

This is one aspect of a radical shake-up of the local wine industry prompted by Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev's drive to wean his countrymen from strong drink.

Officials at the Magarach Research Institute of wine-making and vine-growing say sweet, fortified wines — the preferred tipple of those who cannot reach vodka — will be phased out by 1988 and replaced in part by better-quality

wines. "In Siberia, the Far East and central Russia, people prefer strong, sweet wines," said German Valouiko, a deputy director of the institute. "We are hoping gradually to change their tastes."

The Soviet Union is the world's third-largest wine producer after France and Italy, producing three billion litres a year, or some 17 bottles for every man, woman and child.

Much is fortified wine, with alcohol content up to 20 per cent. This rotgut is popularly known as "bormatka" — a nickname derived from the Russian word for "bubbling" because of its devastating effect.

Soviet leaders, worried by rampant alcoholism, condemn this brew as near poison and pledged to ban it under rules announced in May. Output of vodka, Russia's national drink since the 14th century, is to be sharply reduced. To fill the gap, output of dry

table wines is to be raised and researchers are experimenting with grape juice, low-alcohol wines and non-intoxicating brews with the kick removed.

Journalists who visited the institute's cellars nestled among the vine-clad slopes of the southern Crimea were offered a dry white "sauvignon" wine so new it had no label. "We may exhibit this wine at international shows," said Mr. Valouiko.

He and his colleagues face a tough task in changing Soviet tastes. Russians traditionally seek wines for oblivion, not bouquet, and many prefer brandy with a meal.

All senior officials and party members have been urged to set an example of sobriety by scorning the bottle — at least in public — and Mr. Valouiko declined to join in the wine-tasting.

But he graciously told his guests: "If you want to get poisoned, help yourselves."

Argentina qualifies for '86 World Cup soccer finals

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina became the sixth country to qualify for the 1986 World Cup soccer finals when a late equaliser laid on by defender Daniel Passarella gave them a 2-2 draw with Peru Sunday in their last qualifying match.

Passarella's shot beat goalkeeper Eusebio Acasuso but the ball hit the far post and bounced agonisingly on the goal line before substitute Ricardo Gareca ran in to net to shatter Peru's dreams of an upset victory.

Peru, who had to win to qualify directly for the finals, were leading 2-1 after 39 minutes and appeared on their way to a memorable victory until Argentina's 80th minute equaliser.

They made a desperate bid to regain the lead but could not beat goalkeeper Ubaldo Fillol despite two good chances.

Striker Pedro Pasculli gave Argentina the lead in the 12th minute from a brilliant pass by star midfielder Diego Maradona, who had shaken off his marker Luis

Reyna. But Peru counter-attacked dangerously. Jose Velazquez netted a 23rd minute equaliser and Julio Cesar Uribe added another goal in the 39th minute to shock the 70,000 capacity crowd.

When Argentina took the field at the River Plate stadium the fans gave them the same ticker-tape welcome they had made famous during the 1978 World Cup finals.

The fans were not prepared to consider the possibility of a Peruvian victory but the visitors were confident they could pull it off after beating Argentina in a week ago.

They had also been offered \$9,500 a man by the Peruvian Football Federation if they won. And they had Reyna, who mar-

ked Maradona out of the game in Lima and did the same job again Sunday although not quite so successfully as he allowed the Argentine star to wriggle free and set up the opening goal.

A wet pitch after heavy weekend rain made skilful play difficult for both teams but particularly for Argentina's close-passing game.

Peru found the conditions were to their advantage as their fast wingers Juan Carlos Oblitas and Geronimo Barbadillo raced past the often leaden-footed Argentine defenders.

But Passarella, captain of Argentina's 1978 World Cup winning side, was as firm as a rock and also showed the attack the way with that vital break to get behind Peru's defence and lay on the goal that saved his team's blushes.

Argentina join Uruguay and Brazil as South American qualifiers for next year's finals in Mexico.



TENTH VICTORY: The Gummerstach Handball Club of West Germany won, for the 10th time European Handball Cup beating the Kell Handball Club (L.N.P.—photo by Sven Simon)

Jordan to meet Saudi Arabia

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia and Jordan will meet in the opening match Wednesday of the six-nation Arab Cup soccer tournament being held in the Saudi summer resort of Taif.

The other countries participating are Bahrain, Iraq, Mauritania and Qatar. The tournament ends on July 11.

On Sunday Bahrain beat Jordan in a friendly soccer match which was held in Bahrain.

Brazil, Bolivia draw 1-1

SAO PAULO (R) — Brazil, who have already qualified for next year's World Cup soccer finals in Mexico, put on a pale performance and were held to a surprise 1-1 draw in South American group three by Bolivia Sunday.

Careca scored for Brazil in the 18th minute, heading home a corner taken by Junior. Sanchez equalised for Bolivia in the 74th minute, also from a header.

The Brazilians played their worst game of the competition and were at times completely dominated by the weak Bolivians, who ended at the foot of the group with two points.

The result means that Brazil failed to win either of their two home matches, and fans went away home worrying about their future encounters with the strong European squads.

Kostadinova replaces Andonova in Stockholm Grand Prix athletics

STOCKHOLM (R) — Bulgarian women's high jumper Stefka Kostadinova will appear after all at Tuesday night's Stockholm Grand Prix athletics meeting in place of her compatriot and world record holder Ludmilla Andonova, an organising official said Monday.

Kostadinova, the overall women's Grand Prix leader after winning the high jump at three of the four Grand Prix meetings so far, was not included in the original start list.

In an interview published in the Italian sports newspaper Gazzetta Dello, Kostadinova was quoted as saying: "The organisers in London and Stockholm sent telex messages to my federation saying I was not invited. It is not fair."

But one of the organising officials for the Stockholm meeting told Reuters there appeared to be some confusion about Kostadinova's availability.

The official said the Bulgarians had replied with a list of their available athletes, omitting Kostadinova who had accordingly not been invited.

He said that when the organisers had been told of Kostadinova's comments Sunday night they had teleaxed the Bulgarian authorities to make it clear that she was welcome to compete.

The Bulgarians had replied by saying that Kostadinova would travel to the meeting but Andonova would not.

No reason had been given for the decision, the official said.

Atletico de Madrid wins Spanish Cup

MADRID (R) — Mexican international Hugo Sanchez, the Spanish League's top scorer, led Atletico de Madrid almost singlehandedly to a 2-1 victory over Athletic Bilbao Sunday giving his team their first Spanish Cup title in nine years.

Sanchez put up a spectacular farewell performance in his last game for Atletico de Madrid with a penalty kick in the 24th minute and an aggressive shot in the 54th which fooled Basque goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta.

Winger Julio Salinas scored Athletic Bilbao's only goal in the 74th minute after taking a pass from forward Manuel Sarabia and slamming the ball home.

The Basque team were relentless in their attacks, dominating the game during the first half before a crowd of 110,000 spectators which packed Madrid's majestic Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

However, Atletico de Madrid's backs were able to fend off Bilbao's dangerous advances, all-

owing Sanchez his lightning excursions into Bilbao territory. Sanchez told reporters after the game: "This is one of the happiest days in my life."

40 hurt in clashes

About 40 people were injured Sunday night during clashes between police and Basque football fans after Athletic Bilbao lost the Spanish Cup to Atletico Madrid, Red Cross officials said Sunday.

They said police charged stands in Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu stadium after fans threw beer tins, seat cushions and broken glass on to the pitch. No arrests were reported.

Sanchez's 2-1 win was Atletico Madrid's first Spanish Cup title in nine years.

Australia needs just 81 runs to win 2nd test

LONDON (R) — Australia, requiring 127 to win, were 46 for three in their second innings at the close of the fourth day of the second cricket test against England at Lord's.

Scores: England 290 and 261; Australia 425 and 46 for three.

Smylie outclasses Mandlikova

LONDON (R) — Third-seeded Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia was beaten 6-1, 7-6 in the third round by Elizabeth Smylie of Australia in the biggest upset yet of the 1985 Wimbledon Tennis Championships.

On the first sunny day of the tournament, the 22-year-old Mandlikova was but a shadow of her former self against a player ranked 55th in the world. She gave a performance that was at once inconsistent and dispirited.

It was a similar display to the one she gave on Saturday when she needed three sets to subdue another Australian, Dianne Bales, in the second round. But this time it proved more costly against a solid opponent willing to take chances and able to cash in on her mistakes.

"I need to be eager and I was not hungry and eager today," Mandlikova said. "She didn't miss a single ball in the first set. It was very difficult to play her today. I know I can play better and I'm very disappointed."

In another women's upset Monday, 14th-seeded Wendy Turnbull of Australia was defeated 2-6, 7-5, 6-1 by 19-year-old French prospect Pascale Paradis.

Smylie, who was Elizabeth Sayers until she married her coach Peter Smylie last December, agreed with Mandlikova's view of the opening set.

"I didn't do many things wrong in the first set," she said. "In the

second she led 4-2 and was serving, and if I had lost that game I think I would have been in all sorts of trouble."

But she won it, helped by a forehand error and a double fault by Mandlikova. Then she levelled at 4-4, held serve to get into a tie-break and won it seven points to five with a backhand service return pass.

"I've been practising a lot on a court that has the same features as grass," Smylie said. "I felt I had a good shot against Hana. You have to go in confident against her."

"A lot of people say you just have to be consistent against her, but you have to be much more than that. You have to be prepared to attack," she added.

Her next opponent is the 16th seed, American Kathy Rinaldi.

On the centre court, the Wimbledon singles career of 1977 champion Virginia Wade came to an end when she was beaten 6-2, 5-7, 6-2 by fifth-seeded American Pam Shriver.

Wade, 40 in nine days time, has said that her 24th Wimbledon this year would be her last in singles.

McEnroe beats Steyn

In men's singles, John McEnroe turned a potentially hazardous journey through the "graveyard of champions" into a peaceful stroll at Wimbledon Monday.

The defending men's champion beat South African qualifier Christo Steyn 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 on court two. It was his first singles on an outside court at Wimbledon in five years.

Yet McEnroe made light of the difficulties and conducted himself admirably throughout.

The court has claimed many victims over the years, including McEnroe himself when he was the second seed in 1979. He lost then to compatriot Tim Gullikson 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 on a murky first Saturday of the tournament.

Mamede returns to Stockholm, venue of world athletics record

STOCKHOLM (R) — Fernando Mamede, Portugal's brilliant but enigmatic distance runner, returns to Stockholm Tuesday night a year after shattering the world 10,000 metres record knowing he has still much to prove in a major competition.

Mamede, now 33, is one of the new breed of distance men who have moved up successfully from the shorter events.

In terms of sheer basic speed few of his rivals can touch Mamede. His fellow athletes stand in awe of his talent and his stunning record run here last year was one of the great performances of all time.

That night Mamede obliterated Kenyan Henry Rono's record of

27 minutes 22.42 seconds, finishing in 27:13.81 with a staggering second half which was faster than Irishman Eamonn Coghlan's winning 5,000 metres time in the 1983 World Championships.

At last, his supporters thought, the slim, sad-faced Portuguese was ready to perform to his potential and win a major title.

Few athletes could have been so well prepared for last August's Olympic Games as Mamede and even the great Italian Alberto Tomba acknowledged he had a battle on his hands to add the Olympic title to his European and World golds.

But Mamede, whose best placing in a major race was a lowly

14th in the 1983 world championships 10,000, did not even finish the Olympic final.

One lap past the halfway stage he suddenly veered off the track and stood in the athletes' tunnel with his head in his hands, again unable to cope with the pressure of a big race.

Tuesday Mamede meets Cova in one of the most attractive clashes of the Grand Prix and on the surface, at least, he appears confident of a good performance.

"I am a little bit uncertain about my current shape because it is quite early in the season, but it is the same last year," he told reporters.

Mamede said he enjoyed running before Swedish crowds who always encouraged him to do his best and added that he thought he could further lower his world record with proper preparation.

"If I get competition it will be possible to get down to a time well below 27:13.0," he said.

Mamede, speaking through an interpreter, also indicated that he was prepared to try to emulate his distinguished compatriot Carlos Lopes, who won the Los Angeles Olympic marathon at the age of 37.

"I definitely plan to compete in Seoul and the marathon is a possibility," he said. "The 5,000 and 10,000 are now being run so fast."

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LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.3150/60	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3565/70	Canadian dollars
	3.0275/90	West German marks
	3.4120/40	Dutch guilders
	2.5375/90	Swiss francs
	60.91/96	Belgian francs
	9.2250/2300	French francs
	1932.0/3.0	Italian lire
	247.70/80	Japanese yen
	8.7350/7450	Swedish crowns
	8.7150/7250	Norwegian crowns
	10.8500/8600	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	315.20/315.70	U.S. dollars

LONDON (R) — Share prices rallied to close firmer after an easier opening on cheap buying interest following the sharp falls seen last week, dealers said. Trading, however, was quiet ahead of Thursday's brecon by-election and the OPEC oil ministers meeting on Friday.

At 1430 GMT, the FTSE 100 share index was up 11.83 points at 2462.2, having touched a low of 2238.7, off 6.2, at 0837 GMT. Government bonds finished around $\frac{1}{8}$ point higher, off the highs, after a quiet day's trading. Prices initially firmed in response to higher sterling. Gold shares were generally easier while North American were mixed.

Thorn EMI, which has forecast lower profits for 1984/85 and announced that its chairman, Peter Laister, has resigned was up 14p at 371 after opening down 3p at 354. Other electricals moved off the lows with GEC up 2p at 166 after 160.

Scottish and Newcastle was up 2p at 139 after annual results in line with market expectations.

Christian Salvesen traded at a 3p premium at 118 in oow time dealings, having opened at 106 and after touching a low of 105.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JULY 2, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today's full room brings much activity and the inclination to act in an impulsive and aggravated fashion today, so try to rise above this tendency and be impersonal.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Home ties may pry too much into your business affairs which may require political secrecy, en use tact.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Good time during the full room to study into brochures and periodicals for vital information. Make necessary changes.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get busy with the monetary and practical side of your affairs so that you can become more successful.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Although worldly affairs do not satisfy you and kin, you are powerless to change them, so adjust to them.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You feel you cannot go through with something you have promised, but you soon change your mind and follow up.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study those ideas you have more carefully before you make the quick changes that now occur to you. Drive carefully today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You should be more interested in worldly affairs and less on household chores for best results. Avoid overreacting.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) There can be an exchange of ideas between you and other clever persons onw, provided you use tact.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you keep your wedded life apart from your business, you will avoid confusing conditions. Try to patch things up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be less difficult with sensitive partners and enjoy a finer relationship. Soothe the wounded feelings if a loved one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study how to get your work load better organized for the days ahead and it will be easier to handle.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Try to see as many friends as you can and everything will go more smoothly for all. Use your willpower more.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will think and act fast and will have a very full life, so be sure to early take more interest in psychological and spiritual values. Give as fine an education as you can to help your progeny through a very active life.

PARIS (R) — International borrowers should find willing lenders for the rest of the year as they continue to seek large sums to refinance their debts, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) said Monday.

But less developed countries are unlikely to find much of an increase in funds available, the 24-nation group of industrial countries said in a quarterly review of financial trends.

1984, the review said.

The review said the most creditworthy less developed countries have raised considerable sums in recent months, but other borrowers can hope for little more than some short-term trade finance.

East European borrowers, on the other hand, should greatly increase the \$3.4 billion they borrowed last year, as their fourth successive year of combined trade surpluses with the West boosts

It said that lending grew at a record pace in the early months of the year and the pattern should be sustained at least until December.

Refinancing and consolidation of earlier loans is "likely to remain heavy in the coming months as the improvement in borrowing terms... makes it particularly attractive to reshape outstanding debt."

Companies will also arrange credit facilities ahead of needs to take advantage of low borrowing costs or to establish themselves in international markets.

In April and May international borrowings reached a quarterly rate of \$64.8 billion, compared with just \$49.6 billion during January/March this year and \$195.4 billion over the whole of their credit ratings.

In the longer term, banks look likely to retain a major role in international capital markets despite changes in methods of lending.

The shift from traditional bank loans to a wide range of bond and securities markets "is no doubt the most important change that has confuted the international capital market during the past decade", the review said.

The trend has continued this year, as bank credits and other facilities were made at a quarterly rate of \$21.3 billion in April and May, up only marginally from \$18 billion in the second quarter of 1984.

Bond issues, meanwhile, nearly doubled to a \$43.5 billion quarterly rate from \$22.6 billion...

WARSAW (R) — Polish meat shops bulged with extra supplies of quality ham and sausage Monday as government-regulated prices rose by up to 15 per cent amid opposition calls for protests.

Underground leaders of the banned Solidarity free trade union.

Rationing of meat, which was introduced during the Solidarity crisis, is unaffected by the price changes. Poles are restricted to 2-1/2 kilogrammes of meat each per month. Meat can be bought privately but the price is prohibitive for most people.

hungry workers in industry to stage 60-minute strikes against the increases but there was no immediate sign that the appeal was heeded.

No extra police were deployed near Warsaw's major factories, indicating that the authorities were confident there would be no trouble. Their absence contrasted with the heavy security brought in for energy price increases on April 1.

Solidarity chairman Mr. Lech Walesa, who said protests were justified but did not publicly endorse the strike call, went to work as usual at the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk and said he would join in whatever action the work force decided.

The meat price rises completed a series of increases which have been passed in since March. They are the first since February 1984 and will add three per cent to the cost of living this year according to the government.

The government said bacon went up by nine per cent and ham and poultry by 8.7 per cent with an increase exceeding 15 per cent.

Shops were unusually well stocked in preparation for the increases which in the past have caused conflict between the authorities and the public. There were plentiful supplies of fresh and smoked bacon, stewing beef, pork, ham and sausage.

The authorities warned that food shortages would ensue unless prices were increased.

Higher prices are also being paid from Monday to farmers for meat, cereals and milk in order to sustain the growth in output. The size of the increases was not disclosed. At the same time, rises of up to 25 per cent in the cost of farm machinery were introduced.

Food subsidies currently cost the economy the equivalent of \$3 million a year.

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia, once the world's largest oil exporter, saw its crude oil exports fall to 20-year lows in June, oil industry sources said Monday.

They said exports of crude oil from the main Saudi terminal of Ras Tannurah fell to around nine million barrels per day (b/d) from May's level of 1.35 million.

Export loadings at the terminal in April were around 2.1 million b/d, in March 2.4 million and in February 2.6 million. At times at the height of the oil boom in 1980, loadings exceeded nine million b/d.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Israeli government Monday declared a three-month economic emergency aimed at slashing hyper-inflation, and trade unions responded by calling a national one-day strike for Tuesday.

The Histadrut trade unions federation ordered the strike only hours after the cabinet announced it was suspending wage and price agreements and would run the economy by emergency decrees.

"There is to be a total strike from 6 a.m. tomorrow to 6 p.m. Wednesday," a Histadrut official, Mr. Chaim Habersfeld, told reporters.

About 80 per cent of Israel's work force are Histadrut members. Mr. Habersfeld said the strike would close airports and ports and Israel's national airline El Al would be grounded.

The cabinet held a stormy, 20-hour meeting to draw up an austerity plan aimed at ending five years of triple-figure inflation. It devalued the local shekel by 15.9 per cent and announced 10,000 public employees were to be dismissed.

The government raised fuel prices by 27 per cent to the equivalent of 91 cents a litre and cut food subsidies. The price of bread jumped by 75 per cent, dairy products by 65 per cent and meat by 45 per cent.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i's most controversial move was to suspend the system of limiting wages to monthly inflation following a rise this month.

Histadrut Secretary General Issak Kessar described this as a flagrant violation of existing wage-and-prices agreements and said it amounted to a 30 per cent pay cut for workers.

The Israeli currency was devalued from 1,260 to 1,500 shekels to the U.S. dollar, a 15.9 per cent devaluation by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) method of

PARIS (R)—The French cabinet will set a framework for its next budget this week and finance min-

The budget will continue the current policy of encouraging technological investment and industrial modernisation through tax incentives.

And it will set the economic scene for parliamentary elections in March, when most opinion polls predict the ruling Socialists will lose their majority in the national assembly.

The government has already said that personal income tax will come down by three per cent across the board, following a five per cent cut this year to stimulate domestic demand.

But Finance Minister Pierre-Beregovoy has stressed that there will be no electoral concessions which could damage the row-

ing team. "Politically, unemployment represents the largest single economic problem for the government, and a problem that has emerged so far suggests that the 1986 budget will do much in the short term to remedy that problem."

Under the initial ministerial spending limits which govern expenditure, sources say will be fixed this week, expenditure on education and job training will be more generous than in most other sectors.

But official estimates indicate no reversal in the trend which has taken unemployment from 1.8 million when Mr. Mitterrand took office in May 1981 to 2.4 million now, about 10 per cent of the work force.

And unofficial forecasts by leading economic institutes predict a rise to 2.7 or 2.8 million by the end of this year.

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's total foreign debt including sums owed the

Sinier Union is now around \$30 billion, Western economic experts here said Monday, adding that servicing the debt might develop into a real problem.

They said that if a present decline in hard currency earnings from the chief sources — remittances by expatriate workers, oil exports, Suez Canal tolls and tourism — is not reversed, Egypt might eventually have to seek rescheduling.

It has already asked the United States to try to alleviate the burden of interest on its military debt.

"I do not see Egypt borrowing significantly in the near future, but I believe that in two to three years' time it may have to seek rescheduling," said an economist with the embassy of a leading Western creditor.

Planning Minister Kamal al-Ghazouli has said the debt was privately \$30 billion is more realistic. The debt to the United States, its main foreign backer, is about \$8 billion. Western sources said Moscow is owed at least \$4 billion.

The United States replaced Moscow as Egypt's chief armaments and aid donor in the mid-1970s.

The Western economists said the debt servicing costs Egypt more than \$3 billion a year, about 35 per cent of hard currency earnings.

One commented: "debt servicing has so far been a manageable task. But when it is coupled with an increasing food imports bill, the foreign exchange remaining to buy capital and consumer goods to meet development requirements and popular expectations is stretched."

Self-sufficient in food a decade ago. Egypt now imports half

calculation.

Israeli inflation, which last year was 44.5 per cent, is currently running at an annual 260 per cent rate.

Mr. Modai said the government's objective was to cut inflation to three per cent a month in October.

The emergency measures followed economists' warnings that inflation had suddenly got out of control. Mr. Modai acknowledged that the increase in June could be 30 per cent, a monthly record.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has also voiced concern about the drop in foreign currency reserves. The reserves are now about \$2 billion — far below the \$3 billion figure regarded as the minimum operating level.

During a 20-month debate, Mr. Peres told government ministers to resign if they did not support the measures, state radio said.

Israel, burdened by the world's highest per capita debt, is heavily dependent on U.S. aid. Since taking office nine months ago, Mr. Peres has pressed his divided,

nine-party coalition to put the economy in order to assure continued American assistance.

"If we had not taken this action, there was a danger of (economic) collapse," a weary Peres said in a radio interview.

He issued a dramatic appeal "to every housewife and citizen to put the nation's needs first so all of us together can overcome the tremendous difficulties we face."

Mr. Peres said the emergency programme provided Israel with the chance finally to get out of the inflationary spiral.

"There will be very high inflation for June and July but afterwards there is every chance monthly inflation will decrease to single digit level," he added.

Mr. Peres' government was formed with the prime aim of economic recovery and the Labour prime minister has been criticised for failing to introduce bold measures before now.

Mr. Modai told reporters that the 10,000 employees to be laid off represented three per cent of the public sector work force.

The broad outlines of the budget have already been made public.

"The preparation of the 1986 budget requires the same effort of austerity as in 1985," Mr. Beregovoy said in a recent television interview, commenting that the budget deficit would be held to three per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), in line with a long-term objective announced by Mr. Mitterrand last summer.

"Therefore we have to establish priorities. Research, industrial modernisation, security are priorities, as are education and culture," he said.

"To achieve this difficult operation, there will of course have to be administrative savings. Therefore there will be economies on operational spending and, in the civil service, doubtless recruitment will be limited to what is strictly necessary," Mr. Beregovoy said.

"There will be cuts in staff this year, as there have been previously, where it is possible but not indiscriminately," he added.

Earlier this year Prime Minister Laurent Fabius asked ministers to cut their departmental operating expenses by three per cent next year, freeze spending on new programmes and cut staff by one per cent, at a cost of 20,000 civil service jobs.

Last week the influential daily *Le Monde* carried an article predicting that public spending would rise by just five per cent in value terms in 1986, implying virtually no increase once inflation has been taken into account.

But a finance ministry spokesman said that, while the *Le Monde* article was broadly in line with government thinking, he could not confirm the figures since they had not yet been finalised.

its requirements. The population of 48 million is growing by more than a million a year.

Egypt has loans from some 30 countries but is not servicing them all. Among those not being serviced are military debts to Moscow dating from the Socialist era of the late president Gamal Abdul Nasser.

Economists said they were not sure if Egypt was repaying on schedule about \$260 million in civil debts to Moscow.

Neither did they know if it was servicing debts of nearly \$4 billion to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Libya and a now-dissolved Gulf Fund formed after the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

Egypt, whose borrowing from foreign banks has been very modest, is continuing exchanges with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on \$300 million in stand-by credits.

The talks are part of a programme to address a balance of payments deficit forecast at \$1 billion in the fiscal year which began Monday.

ABU DHABI (R)—Egyptian Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandeel has criticised the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) for internal differences and said he expects oil prices to continue to fall until next winter. He told the daily newspaper, *Al Itihad*: "I expect prices to fall in the near future at least, until the beginning of next winter." Egypt cut its oil prices by 75 cents per barrel in May, bringing the benchmark Suez blend to \$26.75.

ACROSS

- 1 Peak
- 4 Outbreak
- 6 Suspend
- 8 Air-show stunt
- 9 Voice
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- 12 Chordless item
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NEVER TRY TO STAND UP INSIDE A MAILBOX!

Schulz

WATCH YOUR TACKLES, MATE, IT'S A 'FRIENDLY'!

WATCH THEM? HE TAKE HIS EYES OFF - HE GETS LOST IN ADMIRATION!

"You tape these wires to your head and you can watch the late show while you sleep!"

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

AGGUE
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MONFIR
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by Martin Arnold and Bob Le

SILENCE

WHAT THEY CALLED THE GENEALOGIST.
 ...the elusive cartoon.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: THE  (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOLDY QUAKE SAVAGE BREACH
Answer: What that girl who looked like a million bucks was—JUST AS HARD TO MAKE

S. Africans pull out after raid on rebels in Angola

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (Agencies) — South Africa announced that its troops completed a withdrawal from southern Angola early Monday after a two-day incursion in which they killed 62 black-nationalist guerrillas.

A statement by Gen. Constand Viljoen, the South African military chief, said the troops returned to bases in South West Africa. The statement issued in Pretoria, the South African capital, said the forces seized or destroyed large amounts of arms and ammunition.

A military spokesman who read Gen. Viljoen's statement said that South African casualties remained at one killed, one wounded. The South African withdrawal was delayed one day by renewed fighting and discovery of arms stockpiles, military spokesmen said.

They said the raid was intended to counter attacks by the South West African Peoples Organisation, whose Angola-based guerrillas cross the border on commando missions against both military and civilian targets. They said guerrillas mortared a military base along the border Friday night.

South African forces drove 10 to 15 kilometres inside Angola to the first incursion reported since South Africa completed a military pull-out from southern Angola in April. That withdrawal, which occurred a year behind schedule, had been negotiated with the Angolan government to end an anti-SWAPO campaign that resulted in prolonged South African occupation of parts of southern Angola.

South Africa took control of the territory, widely known as Namibia, during World War I and rules it in defiance of the United Nations. SWAPO has been fighting for independence since 1966. In Pretoria, South African Foreign Minister R.F. Botha said the Angolan government had agreed to restrain SWAPO from crossing into Namibia. He told the South African Press Association that since guerrilla attacks continued, South African forces "would not hesitate" to act to "protect the

inhabitants of South West Africa against violence and aggression."

There was no immediate comment from Angola on the fighting. South Africa says more than 400 SWAPO fighters have been killed this year in the 20-year-old push war for control of Namibia, but gives no running total for its own casualties.

In South Africa itself rioting continued in black townships nationwide at the weekend and the black National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) remained deadlocked with employers over a pay claim for the country's vital gold and coal miners.

The NUM says it will arrange a strike ballot this week over wages and conditions for the country's 550,000 black miners and has warned of unprecedented labour unrest unless employers give in to a 22 per cent wage claim.

Miner employers have decided to pay between 14.1 per cent and 19.6 per cent more from Monday, but the NUM says this is not enough.

White miners, for whom the best jobs are reserved by law, earn about five times as much as black miners.



SIGH OF RELIEF: Blake Synnesteid and Robert Trautmann (right) wave to U.S. citizens at Frankfurt's Rhein-Main Air Base after a U.S. military airliner had brought them from Damascus to Frankfurt after they had been held hostages for 17 days in Beirut by Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims (AP wirephoto)

Soviet specialist says Geneva talks may be first victim of SDI

MOSCOW (R) — The Kremlin's specialist on U.S. affairs warned Monday that the Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons could be the first casualty of President Reagan's "Star Wars" defence research programme.

Georgy Arbatov, director of the U.S. and Canada Institute, was amplifying a speech last week by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in which he said Moscow would have to reassess its position in the Geneva talks if the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) research continued.

The U.S. State Department saw Mr. Gorbachev's comments as a

threat to suspend the talks and accused him of lack of seriousness.

Mr. Arbatov, writing about SDI in the Communist Party daily Pravda, said: "One of the first casualties of this programme is most likely to be the Soviet-American arms limitation talks."

Moscow walked out from the last Geneva talks in December 1983. New talks began in March under a joint accord to hold separate discussions on strategic missiles, medium-range missiles and space systems.

The Kremlin has frequently said progress at Geneva is impossible while SDI research continues.

Mr. Arbatov accused the Americans of using the talks as a propaganda trick. He said it would take at least until 1993 to know if the research into an anti-missile space defence system would work.

"The conclusion suggests itself that the United States does not even plan to hold serious talks during the next eight or more years, regarding them more as a propaganda trick."

"Do they ever there (in Washington) really think that the Soviet Union will take part in these unworthy and dangerous games?" he asked.

China hopes U.S. will abide by 1982 pact on arms sales

PEKING (AP) — China reacted Monday to the latest U.S. arms deal with Taiwan by saying it hopes the United States will earnestly abide by the 1982 Sino-U.S. agreement on reducing military sales to that island.

A Foreign Ministry statement did not specifically criticise the Pentagon's proposed \$94 million sale of 262 Chaparral ground-to-air missiles, which requires congressional approval. The Pentagon said the missiles would replace obsolete M-42 anti-aircraft guns and would not affect the basic military balance between Taiwan and Communist China.

In the past, Peking has protested sales of new-generation equipment to Taiwan, including last year's transfer of 12 C-130 transport aircraft.

The ministry statement Monday said: "China's position of opposing U.S. arms sales to Taiwan is well known. We hope that the U.S. government will earnestly abide by the principles set forth in the communiqué of Aug. 17 (1982)."

The United States agreed in the communiqué "to reduce gradually its sales of arms to Taiwan" in quantity and quality.

But the newly appointed Chinese ambassador to Washington, Han Xu, said last month that any U.S. sale of advanced arms to Taiwan would be a "clear violation" of the 1982 pact.

COLUMN

Egypt bans religious stickers on cars

CAIRO (AP) — Apparently because recent calls for Islamic Law have raised fears of sectarian strife, the Egyptian government on Monday gave motorists one week to remove popular religious stickers from cars. The government ban, according to spokesmen for the Interior (police) Ministry, said car owners must remove all "pictures or phrases" from their cars. Offenders will be punished by confiscation of their driving licences for a year, said the spokesman who declined to be named. There was no specific mention of religion in the order which was reported by Egypt's daily newspapers, but the target was clear. For years it has been common practice among Egypt's five million to six million Coptic Christians to affix crosses or pictures of the Virgin Mary and Coptic Pope Shenouda III to the windows of their cars. In recent months thousands of stickers with the phrase "There is but one God and Muhammad is his prophet" flooded shops and were sold on sidewalks.

Diana's birthday ring stirs gossip

LONDON (AP) — Princess Diana was 24 Monday and found herself in public controversy over an expensive ring on her left hand which she didn't get from Prince Charles. The gold ring encrusted with diamonds is worth £10,000 (\$13,000) according to the Mirror newspaper, and £5,000 (\$6,500) according to the rival Daily Mail. The tabloids said that while Charles was playing polo at Windsor, Saturday, the ring was presented to his wife there by millionaire admirer Louis Gerard, 62, a jeweller with businesses in London, Paris and Geneva. His company sponsored the match at Windsor in which Charles played and it also presented a check for £20,000 (\$26,000) to a charity of which the princess is patron. The Mirror ran a photograph showing Gerard smiling as he looked at Diana wearing the ring on the polo lawn as Charles admired a trophy.

Police crack gang of deaf-mute robbers

TAIPEI (R) — Police say they have cracked a gang of deaf-mute robbers and are now questioning three suspects in sign language. A police official said detectives began investigations last month after several people were mugged in the street in total silence. The victims were mostly people who had just withdrawn large sums of money from the bank. No weapons were used in the robberies but some victims had complained they were beaten up when they tried to ask questions.

Police not amused by hijack jokes

LONDON (R) — Police have warned passengers at London's Heathrow Airport that jokes about possessing weapons or planning hijacks could land them in court. "People who make such comments in the misbelief that it is humorous will be arrested and where there is sufficient evidence will be charged," Chief Inspector Jim Hart said. "It is not funny and will not be tolerated at this airport." The clampdown follows the Beirut hijacking, the loss of an Air India airliner with 329 people aboard, possibly after an explosion, and blasts at Frankfurt and Tokyo airports. Police said more people were cracking jokes about hijacks on their way through security checks. A man will appear in court in London on bomb hoax charges. Police arrested him on Friday after he said he had a bomb in his bag. Nothing was found. A Gulf Air flight was delayed last week while police questioned three passengers who said they were planning to hijack the aircraft. Police released them after a warning.

Fire-engine runs out of control, kills woman, baby

BIRMINGHAM, England (R) — A fire-engine answering an emergency call ran out of control in Birmingham, hitting a string of vehicles and killing a woman and a child. Police said the fire-engine hit a double-decker bus, five cars, a minibus, a tree and a bus shelter before toppling onto its side. The woman and baby were in one of the cars. Eleven people, including the baby's father and four firemen, were injured. The call turned out to be a false alarm.

Release of hostages greeted with joy

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Word of the release of 39 American hijack hostages in Beirut was greeted first with apprehension, then giddiness, then unabashed whoops of joy by their loved ones in the United States.

As they had for the past 17 days, the families and friends of the hostages were glued to their television screens again Sunday awaiting the final act of the drama that had twisted their emotions.

Recalling the last minute snag that blocked the release, the aunt of hostage Allyn Coowell said the family at first did not trust Sunday's news of freedom.

"But we all went to pieces when we saw them on television in Syria at that news conference," said Margie Benton from Texas, where the Coowell clan gathered at her Houston home.

"It's unbelievable," she added. "You never really know what the feeling is until you have someone of your own involved."

Many family members already had left for early reunions with the hostages in West Germany.

Those remaining behind celebrated in their own way. There was some talk of U.S. retaliation, but the mood was mainly one of

jubilation.

In Laredo, Texas, the Garza family tossed a huge party. The patriarch of the family, real estate developer Vicente Garza, and son-in-law Robert Trautmann were among the 39 freed.

"We've already popped four cases of Dom Perignon champagne," said relative Javier Santos. "This is like New Year's Eve, the 4th of July and the end of World War Two wrapped up all together."

At Saint Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Algonquin, Illinois, the altar and walls were decorated with symbolic yellow ribbons and Father William McDonnell led his congregation in singing, "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord."

Four of the last hostages were parishioners, members of a large delegation from the church ending a pilgrimage to the Holy Land when Trans World Airlines (TWA) flight 847 was seized by Shi'ite gunmen over Greece and taken to Beirut.

McDonnell himself had been on the plane but was released early with most of the other parish members.

The priest, counselled church members that "lots of good" had

resulted from their ordeal.

"Several family members who had been estranged from each other have been reconciled.... people in the families have gathered together to show their mutual love.... it has brought out the inner strength."

Meanwhile the father of the Navy diver who was the lone casualty of the TWA hijack crisis said Sunday that "our prayers have been answered" by the release of the 39 remaining Americans taken hostage with his son, Robert Dean Stethem.

"We are as happy to see them as free men as they must now feel," Richard Stethem, a retired career navy man, said.

President Reagan, in a televised address Sunday night, said those who brutally beat and murdered Stethem "must be held accountable" for their actions.

Stethem, 23, a navy diver who was returning from a construction project at a U.S. Air Force base in Greece, was severely beaten and then shot in the head on June 15, a day after the hijacking started.

His killers then threw his body from the jet to the Beirut Airport tarmac.

Palau remains calm after murder of president

SYDNEY (R) — The Pacific island republic of Palau has remained calm after the assassination of President Haruo Remeliik Sunday, U.S. High Commissioner Janet McCoy said Monday.

"It's been very quiet down there," she told Reuters by telephone from her headquarters on the island of Saipan, about 750 miles north-east of Palau.

Ms. McCoy said her office had been receiving constant reports from the capital, Koror.

Mr. Remeliik, 53, was shot four times by a gunman outside his house in Koror as he returned home after midnight from a fishing trip.

The Palau government has declared a 15-day mourning period for the president, who left a wife and six adult children, Ms. McCoy said.

She said no state of emergency or curfew had been declared and arrangements were under way for a smooth transfer of power to Vice-President Alfonso Oitongor.

He will be sworn in as acting president when he returns from New York Tuesday.

Nobody has been arrested for the shooting and the motive remains a mystery, Ms. McCoy said. Police were seeking suspects.

Presidential assistant Boofacio Basilius later confirmed all was quiet in the eight inhabited islands.

"It's business as usual but the people of Palau are still shocked and saddened by the death of the president," he said by telephone from Koror.

Brighton bombing suspect appears in court

LONDON (R) — A suspected member of the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) appears in court in London Monday amid a major security alert charged with murdering five people in a bomb attack which nearly killed Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Patrick Magee is the first suspect to be arrested in connection with the blast which wrecked the Grand Hotel in Brighton last October. He was charged on Saturday.

The IRA claimed responsibility for the attack, intended to kill Mrs. Thatcher and other members of her government who were staying at the hotel on the night of the blast attending the annual conference of the ruling Conservative Party.

Magee's arrest is considered a major success for security forces which mounted one of their biggest manhunts in British police history, following the Brighton bombing.

Magee, 34, from Belfast, was one of 15 people arrested to raids across Britain last month. Police said they had foiled an IRA plot to bomb 12 English seaside resorts in July.

Apart from Magee, six other people, including three women, were charged at London's top security Paddington Green Police Station with terrorist offences and plotting to cause explosions in mainland Britain.

He and four of the suspected Irish guerrillas were brought from Scotland under heavy guard. The remaining two were arrested in London.

The seven will appear in Lam-beth Magistrates' Court amid tight security measures. Armed police will watch from rooftops while a helicopter will circle overhead during the hearing.

A total of 16 people are in police custody in connection with what police believe was an IRA plan for a bomb blitz to coincide with the summer tourist season.

Corsican separatists to suspend military activities

MARSEILLE, France (Agencies) — Four masked men identifying themselves as members of banned Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC) on Monday announced the suspension of the separatist group's military activities — as 39 explosives rocked Corsica but caused no injuries.

"We reserve the right of riposte in case of repressive provocation or aggression against any of our activists," said the four, who spoke to reporters in the early morning hours in an underground parking garage next to Marseille's Palace of Justice.

They warned that explosions would rock the French Mediterranean island of Corsica, 200 kilometres from mainland France, as they spoke.

Authorities in Corsica said 19 bombs went off in the southern part of the craggy island and 20 more exploded in the north, doing minor damage to gendarmerie posts, banks and stores.

"We have the force and the needed organisational capacity to enforce respect of this suspension," said one of the four. "But we will use the same force and organisational capacity if the power (government) persists in its policy of negation of our national rights."

The FLNC has carried out hundreds of bombings since the mid-1970s in its effort to end two centuries of French rule. However, the explosions, usually in a series, are timed and placed in avoid injuries.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attacks. Previous bombings have been claimed by the outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC), which is fighting for independence from mainland and France.

Zulu Chief Gaghla Buthelezi, who is also president of the self-styled Cultural Liberation Movement Inkatha, issued the warning at the end of Inkatha's annual congress here in the KwaZulu tribal homeland capital.

Mr. Buthelezi, who bitterly attacked the ANC at the opening of the gathering, said Sunday: "We must be aware of the fact that the ANC mission-in-exile are now actually committed to annihilating Inkatha."

Mr. Buthelezi and the mainly-Zulu Inkatha say they are fighting apartheid racial segregation from within the South African political system while the ANC is pledged

Greenpeace ship escapes from Belgium

AMSTERDAM (R) — The Greenpeace environmental group vessel Sirius was given a warm welcome when it arrived here after escaping from detention in Antwerp under cover of darkness.

About 500 wellwishers clapped and waved flags as the ship sailed through the locks at IJmuiden to sail along the 24 kilometre North Sea Canal to its berth in the centre of Amsterdam, a Greenpeace spokesman said.

Dutch police took no action against the vessel. "We don't expect any problems with the police since our detention in Antwerp concerns a civil procedure. This is a different question to a conflict with Belgian justice authorities," the spokesman said.

In Brussels, the Sirius had been chained for about six weeks to moorings pending an Antwerp court ruling, due on July 12, on claims for about \$100,000 dam-

ages against Greenpeace for having used the boat last month to obstruct work on dumping chemical waste in the North Sea.

A statement issued by Greenpeace said the escape did not mean the organisation would defy the legal consequences of its actions. But it described the damages claim as fantastically high and was aimed at ruining Greenpeace financially so that it could not continue its actions to defend the environment.

Witness reports seeing Aquino punched

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The first defence witness in the Benigno Aquino assassination trial testified Monday that he saw an unidentified man apparently punching the opposition leader moments before Sen. Aquino fell dead with a bullet in his head.

Jose Orias, an airline employee working at the Manila Airport when Sen. Aquino was assassinated on Aug. 21, 1983, indicated that he did not actually see the former senator being shot. Sen. Aquino was returning from three years of self-exile in the United States.

Orias, 26, contradicted the prosecution claim that Sen. Aquino was shot on an airline stairway, saying he saw Aquino walking on

the tarmac flanked by soldiers before he heard any sound of gunfire.

Lawyers for Armed Forces Chief Gen. Fabian Ver and 25 other defendants claim Sen. Aquino was shot on the tarmac by alleged Communist agent Rolando Galman, who was killed by soldiers after Sen. Aquino fell. Galman was disguised in a blue airline mechanic's uniform when he was killed. The 26 accused — all soldiers except for a lone civilian — are charged with double murder for the death of Sen. Aquino and Galman.

The prosecution contends Sen. Aquino was still on the staircase leading to the tarmac when his military escorts shot him, and Gal-

man later was made to appear to be the assassin.

Orias said he was at the cockpit of a nearby plane when "a man in blue suddenly darted from behind (Aquino) and, as it appeared to me, delivered a fist blow."

Prodded by military defence lawyer Rodolfo Jimenez on whether the man he saw strike Sen. Aquino was the man later identified as Galman, Orias said, "I can't say that."

Orias had told a fact-finding board which investigated the assassination last year that it was "possible" that one of the soldiers with Sen. Aquino had fired the fatal shot. But chief prosecutor Manuel Herrera did not ask about that during the cross-examination.

Filipino rebels kidnap priest, nun

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines (R) — Muslim rebels have kidnapped a Spanish priest and a Filipino nun in the southern Philippines and are demanding a ransom of one million pesos (\$50,000) for their release, the military said Monday.

A military spokesman said Father Eduardo Monje, 46, who has lived in the country for more than a decade, and Sister Heidi Villalare were seized by members of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) on Basilan Island near Zamboanga City.

The MNLF is also holding an American and a West German who were seized on Jolo Island last November.

The spokesman said the priest, the nun and two other women were kidnapped on Friday when they were travelling to a small town where Fr. Monje was due to celebrate Mass.

The kidnappers later freed the two other women who conveyed the MNLF demand to the authorities.

The Bishop of Basilan, Jose Quereza, met senior military officers and later said no ransom would be paid. The military said negotiations were going on with the MNLF for the release of Fr. Monje and Villalare.

Fr. Monje is the parish priest of Lamsao, a small municipality in Basilan, and had also worked in

Zamboanga City and Manila.

In January, the MNLF agreed to free American John Robinson and West German Helmut Herbst in the custody of Pakistan's ambassador to the Philippines as a representative of the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

But they were not released because the ambassador was not carrying an authorisation from the organisation.

In the past few months the military has reported no further progress in securing their release.

Last April, Italian priest Tullio Favali was murdered on Mindanao Island in the southern Philippines. Two militiamen have been charged with the killing.

Zulu chief accuses ANC of aiming to destroy Inkatha

ULUNDI, South Africa (R) — The leader of South Africa's biggest black tribe has said that the exiled African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla group was trying to destroy the Inkatha Apartheid Movement.

Zulu Chief Gaghla Buthelezi, who is also president of the self-styled Cultural Liberation Movement Inkatha, issued the warning at the end of Inkatha's annual congress here in the KwaZulu tribal homeland capital.

Mr. Buthelezi, who bitterly attacked the ANC at the opening of the gathering, said Sunday: "We must be aware of the fact that the ANC mission-in-exile are now actually committed to annihilating Inkatha."

Mr. Buthelezi and the mainly-Zulu Inkatha say they are fighting apartheid racial segregation from within the South African political system while the ANC is pledged

to end white minority rule by force.

He said the ANC now perceived that the politics of negotiation had become a probability in South Africa and Inkatha would play a dominant role.

Inkatha, which claims a strength of 1.1 million, is the biggest black political group in South Africa in terms of paid-up members.

An Inkatha spokesman said Sunday night that about 12,000 members at its policy-setting conference condemned a resolution last week by the South African Council of Churches calling for a withdrawal of foreign investment from the republic to pressure reform.

Inkatha has repeatedly taken the stance that disinvestment would worsen the plight of the majority blacks under the apartheid system enforced by the

white minority government.

Mr. Buthelezi has suggested that Inkatha might open its doors to all races, and the conference asked its central committee to consider the implications.

Inkatha and two other groups fighting apartheid inside South Africa, the black consciousness Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) and the multi-racial United Democratic Front, are all at odds over ideological differences.

The conference also decided to pursue ties between Inkatha and the white parliamentary opposition Progressive Federal Party (PFP), which announced this month it would open membership to all races following changes in the law.

Ten PFP members of parliament, including veteran politician Helen Suzman, were war-

mily welcomed at the conference.

Meanwhile protests flared anew overnight with South African police reporting sporadic arson, petrol bombings and stone throwing in black townships across the country.

Police said riot squads dispersed a crowd stoning a black policeman's home at Graaff-Reinet in the Cape province with birdshot, tear gas and rubber bullets. One black youth was slightly hurt.

In other incidents in Cape province, police fired birdshot to disperse a crowd and eight blacks were arrested on charges of public violence.

A black man was arrested at Amsterdam east of Johannesburg after a stone-throwing incident, police added.

About 450 people have been killed in rioting over the past 17 months.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

1984 Tribune Media Services Inc.

CHOOSE YOUR POISON

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 475
♥ 1053
♦ K 106
♣ A 42

EAST
♠ A 63
♥ Void
♦ A 9742
♣ Q 9665

SOUTH
♠ K 9842
♥ A Q 74
♦ J 13
♣ K 3

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠
Pass 2 ♥ Pass 4 ♥
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠.

The first round of the Women's Team Olympiad in Seattle featured a clash between two of the favorites — the U.S. and Great Britain. The Americans won the match 24-6, but the British had the consolation of a brilliantly played hand by Sally Horton.

In one room, the Americans doubled West in four clubs and defeated it two tricks for a score of 300. In the other room, Horton, South, and Sandra Landy bid to four hearts on the auction shown.

The commentators on Vu-Graph, looking at all four hands, forecast a one-trick defeat, but watch what happened.

West led the ace of diamonds and shifted to a club. Declarer won in dummy and led a trump to the ace, revealing the nasty break. She cashed the king of clubs and then led a low spade. West ducked, dummy's queen won and the last club was ruffed.

Declarer crossed to the diamond king and ruffed a diamond. This was the position:

♠ 75
♥ K 105
♦ —
♣ —

♠ A 6
♥ 1386
♦ —
♣ —

♠ K 984
♥ Q
♦ —
♣ —

After cashing the queen of hearts for her eighth trick, declarer exited with a spade. If East won this trick, she would be end played and forced to lead a trump into dummy's tenace. If West won the trick, East would have to r